

①
Photocopies of —————→ File No. 25/4/NGO-Vol. I

Total no. of pages: 169

गोपनीय

~~TOP~~ SECRET

विदेश मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(एन० जी० ओ० अनुभाग)

(N. G. O. SECTION)

फाइल नं०

File No. 25/4/NGO-Vol. I.

विषय : (कृपया इस आवरण को उलटें)
(Subject : Please Turn Over)

(Photocopies of the
file)

कहां भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On	कहां भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On	कहां भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On
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Declassified



अप्रतिम
मार्च 15

(अरुण कुमार चटर्जी)
(ARUN KUMAR CHATTERJEE)
संयुक्त सचिव (जी. एन. ओ.)
Joint Secretary (G.N.O.)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

Notes: pages 1 to 74
CORR - Pgs 75 to 199

INA
Treasure
JMC file

विषय :-
SUBJECT :-

Taking over of the

Properties of the CMA in
JAPAN

संबंध फाइलें :—
Connected Files :—

नं०
No.

विषय :—
Subject :—

JAPAN
(41) Safe custody of the Late
विषय :—
Subject :—
Subhas Chandra Bose.

दिना तारीख को निकाली गई R/F Date	किस क्रम संख्या के लिए निकाली गई Per Serial No.	किस क्रम संख्या का निपटारा हुआ Disposal Serial No.	टिप्पणी Remarks

Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Branch)

②
S.No.7-A and 8-A(F.Rs.)

Resubmit with previous papers please.

Sl/-B.N.Chakravarty
19.6.51

Submitted with connected papers.

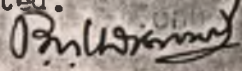
These letters have crossed Secy.(CR)'s detailed reply at S.No. 6-A. He has, however, got our instructions conveyed in our Top Secret telegram at S.No. 5-A.

TA
19.6.51

Secy.(CR)

1p

9-A
I mentioned this case to P.M. who has also seen the photostat copies. A telegram was issued on the 23rd. Also issue the draft dictated.

11A

(B.N.Chakravarty)
-25.6.51

S.No.16-A (FR)

Acknowledged. Put up with papers.

(sd) B. N. Chakravarty.
9.7.51

Submitted with connected papers.

AN
10-7.51
TA
10/7
Scg(CR)

20

I mentioned this matter to P.M. Issue the draft dictated.

B.N. Chakravarty
(B.N. Chakravarty)
18.7.51.

NGO.

S.No.22-A (FR)

With papers.

(sd) B. N. Chakravarty.
28.7.51

Submitted with connected papers. The F.R. has obviously crossed our two letters to Mr. Chettur at S.Nos. 19-A and 21-A. No further action is necessary at present.

AN
28-7.51
TA
28/7
Scg(CR)

I agree.
F.S. may see these papers at leisure

B.N. Chakravarty
30/7/51

3-8-51

Supd Mr 50

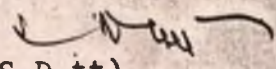
③ ④ ⑤
Ministry of External Affairs.

23 A

(1) I place below a letter from Mr. Sri Prakasa to the Prime Minister dated September 12. The Prime Minister saw Mr. Ayer today and after discussion with him asked me to instruct Mr. Chettur to take over the gold and jewellery which are now in ^{the} charge of Mr. Murti and keep it in safe custody in the Mission. Mr. Ayer informed the Prime Minister that although Shri Subash Bose's ashes are now in a temple in Tokyo, there should be no difficulty about Mr. Chettur taking charge of them. The Prime Minister suggested our writing to Mr. Chettur to take charge of the ashes from Mr. Murti but not to remove the ashes to the Mission. Mr. Chettur should be informed accordingly and also told that further instruction about the disposal of the ashes and the gold will follow.

(2) 2. The Prime Minister suggested to Mr. Ayer that he should draw up a full report on the circumstances resulting in Mr. Bose's death, giving details of the evidence which ^{he} had collected. On receipt of the report the Prime Minister will consider making a suitable statement before Parliament on the subject of Shri Bose's death.

3. Will DS(FEA) kindly take urgent action?


(S. Dutt)
15. 9. 51.

DS(FEA).

⑤ - 26 - ④ ⑤

Subject:- Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

(1) Ashes:

A self contained note is attached. References are at Flags U, G, and H. 25A

(2) I. N. A. Treasure:

On 23rd June 1951, the Prime Minister's instructions were conveyed by telegram to Mr. Chettur saying "you should endeavour to get possession of all the treasure on behalf of Government and keep it in safe custody pending further instructions". Mr. Chettur answered "all the treasure, if it existed, save the two boxes now promised by Iyer which are I understand in Ramamurti's possession now, must have long ago been converted into hard cash, commodities and landed property. The proceeds must also have been distributed between the parties concerned", three members of this gang being Ramamurti(IIL), Capt. Thairatatte and Col. Figgess. It was, therefore, too late to undertake a treasure hunt and, in any case, his investigations would involve "a degree of publicity which might well prove embarrassing not only to the Mission but also to the Government of India". In reply, Mr. Chakravarty explained that he did not think it necessary for ILM to start an actual search for the treasure but that they should ask Ramamurti to hand over the gold which was with him. Mr. Chakravarty added that the PM was out of town but he would mention the case again to him and obtain further orders. There is nothing on file to show that this was done or that ILM did actually take over the gold from Ramamurti.

Pink Flag 'A' (Link)
2/c)

Flag 'H' (L.F.)

15-9-51.

Secretary R.

27

I have on file a note which I had dictated before I left D's note. May be discuss. S.D. 15/9/51

16

~~5~~ 2/8 40

Subject:- Late Shri Subhas Chandra Bose.

Spoken to Secretary(CR). Two drafts are placed below for approval.

[Signature]

22-8-51.

29

Secretary(CR).

Chauhan. Sir.

[Signature]
24/9/51

22.9.51

N.90.

P/S
Telegram sent
24/9

S.A. Ayer saw me some days ago and told me about his visit to Japan and of the inquiries he had made there. I have separately spoken to you about the gold etc. and I understand that our representative has taken possession of this.

2. The other point that Ayer spoke to me about was his inquiry into the air crash which brought about the death of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. As a result of his inquiry he felt dead sure that there was no doubt at all about Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's death on that occasion. He showed me some papers and some photographs and some documents signed by the Japanese people. I asked him to write out a full report about this. He has sent me the attached bundle of papers, photographs, etc. Please go through them.

3. It is for us to consider whether we should issue a public statement about this or not. In the balance, I am inclined to think that it would be desirable to issue some statement or to make it in Parliament. On the other hand, this may lead to some controversy, possibly even with Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's family.

4. I think the best course would be for us to draft some such statement and to send it to Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's family. After hearing from them, we could take a final decision about publication.

J. Nehru

(J. Nehru)
26.9.1951.

Secretary. CR.

No. 3337-PM.

35

I told P.M. that it would be inadvisable for him to ^{make} ~~issue~~ a statement now. Whether or not Shri Subhas Bose is dead is not a live issue at present. I have no doubt on the evidence that Shri Bose is dead, but P.M.'s political opponents would utilise any statement made by him for propaganda purposes particularly in view of the forthcoming elections. I did ^{added} say, however, that there is a significant reference in Habibur Rehman's statement to Netaji Bose's intention to get out

of the plane at Dairen and to the intention of the Japanese authorities to let him cross over to the Russian-held territory. Habibur Rehman's is the really important evidence, and those who still cherish the belief that Netaji Bose is alive and is somewhere in Russian-held territory, will seize upon any piece of evidence in support of their theory.

I also pointed out to P.M. that whereas according to Habibur Rehman the dead body was cremated on the 20th August 1945, according to the municipal certificate the cremation took place at 6 p.m. on the 22nd August 1945. One could understand a fictitious name being used in the death certificate and in the cremation certificate, but there was no necessity of using a fictitious date of cremation. Either Habibur Rehman's memory must have played him false or there is something wrong with the cremation certificate.

P.M. asked me to record my remarks and also agreed with me that I should write to Shri Anand Mohan Sahay to whose house Habibur Rehman went on return to Tokyo after the accident. The letter below to Shri Sahay should issue without delay.

(S. Dutt)
27. 9. 51.

DL (F.E.A.)

N. G. O.

1.10.51

(Incl. n. 28.9.51)

Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Branch)

S.No.37-A

FR

37

D.S.(FEA) may see. We may wait for the further communication promised by Mr. Chettur. To 25.10.51.

(sd) S. Dutt.
12.10.51

*in the charge of
Mr. Ramamurti.

Who has first used this phrase*? Please trace source of emanation.

(sd) Leilamani Naidu
15.10.51.

The phrase 'in the charge of Mr. Ramamurti' was first ~~used~~ ^{used} in our letter to Mr. Chettur at S.No.31-A, which was based on Secy.C.R.'s minute at No.24.

AN
16.10.51
TH
16/10
DS(FEA)

Santhakrishnan
17.10.51

NGO.

10
60
Ministry of External Affairs

³⁸
The file is resubmitted with reference to Secy.(CR)'s
note on S.No.37-A. The further communication promised by
Mr. Chettur has not yet been received.

MA
25.10.51

TA

25/10

DS (FEH)

³⁹
he must wait another
fortnight, after which
a draft can be put
up to Secy C.R. for

25.10.51

Ministry of External Affairs

Ref: S.No.46-A

We have not yet received a reply to the D.O. letter to Mr. Sahay at S.No.46-A. A draft reminder is put up for approval.

✓ FA

AM
15-12-57

TA

15/12

BS (PRA)

J. S. S. 19. XII. 57.

NGO.

Ministry of External Affairs.

41

Mr. Iyer has spoken, I believe, more than once to P.M. about the INA properties which were in the possession of Mr. Ram Murty and about Netaji Subhas Bose's ashes. Since Dy. Secy. will be busy with the visit of the Chinese Cultural Mission during the next two months, will U.S. (FEA) please prepare a summary of the information received from Mr. Chettur about the properties and the ashes? Mr. Chettur seems to think Mr. Iyer's conduct in regard to the cash and valuables left by Netaji rather suspicious. P.M. ought to know about this.

The papers should be placed before F.S. since he deals with Far East.

(S. Dutt)
27. 10. 51.

42

U.S. (FEA). May I have the papers please?

R/S
27/10

N.G.O.

Ref: Note above

Submitted with connected papers.

A/N
29.10.51

TB
29/10

US/CK

43

As desired by Sec (C.R.) a summary regarding the INA treasures is placed on file.

R/S
1/11

Sec (C.R.)

Thanks. I have referred to Summary and will show it to P.M.

US(C)K

44

film
5/11

48

2. Mr. Sahay has not yet replied to Secretary(CR)'s letter asking for 'a note on the plan' which Shri Subhas Chandra Bose had in mind at the time he left Saigon by air in August 1945. I sent a reminder ten days ago.

31-12-1951.

I've been studying
the manuscript; in the
meantime I've since ^{seen} references
to it in the Secretary (CR)

Many thanks.

L. W. Allen
2.1.52

12 (P50) + 2.1.52

N^o.

14

14

812

Ministry of External Affairs

48

We have still not received a reply to Secy.(CR)'s D.O. to Mr. Sahay at S.No.46-A, in spite of a reminder vide S.No.47-A. A draft D.O. is put up for approval.

u
DFA

AM
1.2.52
JAB
1/2
US (FCH)

R. K. S. S. S.
1/8

Secret

52, 50A

I asked for this report from Mr. Sahay in the hope that the material supplied by him would be of use in checking up Mr. K.A. Ayer's conclusions. Mr. Ayer, however, has already published his book. Mr. Sahay's report should, therefore, be filed with other papers on the subject and no immediate action is necessary. There would be no objection, however, ~~in~~ letting Ayer have a copy of the report for his personal information.

Incidentally, will DS(XP) kindly obtain a copy of Ayer's book?

(S. Dutt)
30.1.1952.

~~DS(XP)~~
US(FEA)

53

Please order a copy of Mr. Ayer's book. These papers shd. not go to the office.

S. Sen
31/1/52

~~USC(P)~~

54
Please inform.

~~Am. copy~~
31/1

S. Sen
31/1

~~DS(XP)~~ ~~Sen/CP~~ Book has been taken over by the Secy(CP)
Seen
6/2

US(FEA)

55
91

N.G.S.
TB
912
~~DS(FEA)~~

DS(FEA) may like to see.

~~Am~~

9.2.52.

N90

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT.

58

57-A I enclose a copy of a letter addressed to Dr B.C. Roy, Chief Minister of West Bengal. Will you please send to Dr Roy a copy of Ayer's report or a copy of the resume of the report that we are placing before Parliament?

J. Nehru

(J. Nehru)
1.3.1952.

(Camp: Chittaranjan)

Recd 4/3

Secretary CR. (C.R.)

59

Issue d.o. dictated. copy of
resume of report to be attached to d.o.

J. Nehru
1/3/52

Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Branch)

D.No.2098-NGO/52

FR (63-A)

The photographs and other documents received from Mr. S.A. Ayer with his report dt.24.9.51 at S.No. 33-A (Slip 'O') are placed in the folder at flag 'Z'. The photographs may now be returned to Mr. Ayer. A draft is submitted for approval.

S.No.69-A

FR

70

The note at slip 'A' briefly summarises the position regarding the I.N.A. treasure.

2. The contents of the treasure, which was taken possession of from Mr. Ram Murthy by our Mission in Tokyo at our instance, on the 24th September 1951, are given at slip 'G'.

3. As Japan is now a sovereign state, there is not likely to be any difficulty about bringing the treasure over to India. We may perhaps consult our Ambassador in Tokyo on the point. Draft submitted for approval.

Enc DFA as annexed.

I am sending a self contained note, with S.No 69-A, for PII's information.

1A.8.52

DS (FBI)

72-A

73

(15) MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Reference: Mr.B.N.Kaul's letter No.DS/11951 dated 4-10-52 to the Foreign Secretary.(F.R).

Subject: I.N.A. TREASURE

Notes

I. In June 1951, when Mr.S.A.Aiyer, formerly Publicity Adviser I.N.A., was on a visit to Japan, the Prime Minister cabled to Mr.K.K.Chettur saying that he should "endeavour to get possession of all the (I.N.A) treasure on behalf of Government and keep it in safe custody pending further instructions".

On his return to India, Aiyer denied that the Embassy had approached him in the matter and urged that they be asked to take over charge of the treasure from his former I.N.A. colleague in Tokyo, Mr.Ram Murthy.

After prolonged correspondence with the Foreign Secretary, Mr.Chettur reported that his Embassy had ^{formally} ~~formerly~~ taken possession of the I.N.A treasure on September the 24th. (A list of the articles is attached.) It is worth noting that the whole of the Ambassador's correspondence is charged with deep suspicion of the integrity of Mr.Aiyer who, "apprehensive of the early conclusion of the Peace Treaty" went to Tokyo "to divide the loot and to salve his and Murthy's conscience by handing over a small quantity to Government in the hope that, by doing so, he would also succeed in drawing a red-herring across the trail".

14

120 19

II. I have asked Mr. Rauf to let us know whether the I.N.A. treasure or its equivalent in money could now be transferred to India.

Chander Nair

14-10-52

~~23~~

74

Will you please see your letter below about the INA treasure in Japan? The above note explains the position about the custody of the treasure. I shall send a fuller note after we have had a report from Mr. Rauf.

Chander
15/10/52

75
Please ^{also} put up after the further report promised has been received.

Chander
16/10

ATG(0)

76

I had intended to put up these papers to P.M. after the further note promised by the E.A. Ministry on receipt of information from Mr. Rauf was available. However, as Prime Minister made enquiries about this matter from the E.A. Ministry on another file also, he may kindly see these papers. I shall put them up again after the report from Mr. Rauf has been received.

Maul
(B.N. Kaul)
17.10.52.

G.A.
20.10.52
17/10

P.M.

Chander
17/10

F.S.

Chander
17/10
20.10.52

(20)
S.No.77-A

78 (13)
FR

Would like to see pps.

Sd/- Anil K. Chanda
28.10.52

Pps.

Sd/- Leilamani Naidu
28.10.52

Submitted with connected papers.

See
28.10.52
28.10.52

DS (FEA)

79

Subject: I.N.A. TREASURE

77-A.
In response to our enquiry about the possible transfer of the I.N.A. treasure to India, Mr.Rauf has cabled to say that he is sending it through Mr.Damle of the Agriculture Ministry who is returning to Delhi from Tokyo, on November the 7th.

SUGGESTIONS

- see 40-B
- (a) Mr.K.K.Chettur's list of the contents of the I.N.A. treasure bears no signature or seal. I feel that we should ask Mr.Rauf to send us a fresh list, duly authenticated.
- (b) It would also facilitate matters if a decision were now taken regarding custodianship of the treasure in New Delhi. I venture to suggest that the Prime Minister authorize the two Secretaries, FS and CS, to take charge of the treasure from Mr.Damle next week. JS(AD) could perhaps arrange to have it duly checked and deposited in his safe?

9 after
28/10/52
Telegram to
Mr. Rauf is
under course
30/11/52

JS.
28-10-52

80
I think JS (AD) should take charge of this treasure which is being brought by Mr. Damle from Tokyo. We must decide what to do with this treasure. Perhaps P.M. will give some directions.

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

The so-called treasure, which consists of some gold, should be placed in a bank or safe deposit vault. The disposal of this treasure will have to be considered later.

J. Nehru

(J. Nehru)
29.10.1952

~~P.S.~~

Ministry of External Affairs.

J. Nehru

30/10/52

~~JS (45)~~ Please see 45.5
note on the previous page.
JS (45) 85 I have noted what
is required of me. (pressure. DS. (FEA)
will show the papers to Dy Minister
(ref. his note of 28.10.52).

[S/NGO. Please put up this file
to me on 6/11/52.]

H. Dayal

30.10.52

~~DS (FEA)~~

84

I regret that these papers could not be shown to the Deputy Minister earlier as they had to go up to the Prime Minister for decision. My note dated 14-10-52 explains the position briefly.

[Signature]

30-10-52

Deputy Minister

85

Seen. Thanks.

Anil K. Handa
31/10/52

~~DS (FEA)~~
N90. 31/10/52

14 22
Ministry of External Affairs

NGO Br.

87

M. 86

Resubmitted with reference to JS(AD)'s marginal note dated 30. 10. 52 on pre-page.

JS

6.11.52

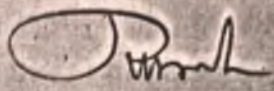
JS(AD)

To await Mr Samle's answer.
H. Deyal

(22)
TOP SECRET
MOST IMMEDIATE.

(B) (15) (1)
89
I am not at all clear about Customs ^{exemption} examination.
I have not forgotten my Customs Law, even Government property has to pay duty. However, you ^{might} take this up with C.B.R., explaining the whole background.

D.S. (FEA)


(R.K. Nehru)
9.11.52

1
Ho.

24
TOP SECRET

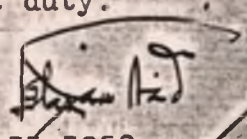
16 24
MOST IMMEDIATE

90
Please see Foreign Secretary's note, p.I. H.87

A few months ago, the Government of India took over charge, in Tokyo, of some property belonging to the former "Indian National Army". This was done at the specific request of some officers of the I.N.A. who had kept the property with them since the reported death of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose.

By order of the Prime Minister, this INA property has now been sent to India through Mr Damle, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. He is travelling by Pan American Airways flight 3, leaving Tokyo today and reaching Delhi on the evening of Monday, 10th November. The property consists of gold ornaments and dust and broken pieces and is being carried in a steel attache case.

We would be grateful if urgent instructions were kindly issued to the Customs authorities to exempt the contents of this steel attache case from examination and import duty.


9-II-1952

FINANCE MINISTRY (RD). Shri Rajaram Rao
Ministry of External Affairs, (NGO).

91
Discussed with M(CX).

As pointed out already by Foreign Secretary, even Government imports have to pay Customs duty. The Tariff provides for the levy of duty on goods per se and does not take into account other factors. The gold ornaments etc., being imported from Tokyo are thus liable to duty and we can see no reason for exempting them from payment thereof. We would have no objection to Customs exemption being waived provided the Ministry of External Affairs have with them a detailed list of the articles in question giving the weights and value of each item thereof. In that case, as is permissible for Government stores, the goods may be cleared under the Note & Pass procedure, under which the goods are cleared

25

44A (25)

immediately on a Kacha Bill of Entry and duty is credited afterwards by book adjustment. If, however, detailed particulars of the articles ~~is~~ ^{are} not available then it will not be possible to waive Customs examination because the goods will have to be assessed to duty. I have explained the position to Miss Naidu over the telephone and she has stated that we will hear further from them in the matter.

I understood from Miss Naidu that most of these articles ~~were~~ ^{are} broken bits of jewellery etc. They would, therefore, be classified as gold bullion and would require an import licence from the Reserve Bank of India. I have, however, spoken to Mr. S.S. Shiralkar of the Economic Affairs Department of this Ministry and he states that in anticipation of such approval of the Reserve Bank they would have no objection to the gold being cleared without such a permit. The Ministry of External Affairs may see.

Am
(A.K. Mukarji)
10.11.52.

Ministry of External Affairs (Miss Lailamani Naidu)

93

Since writing the above note, I have received a call from Miss Lailamani Naidu and I am informed that the Ministry of External Affairs have a detailed list of articles in question giving the weights and value of each item thereof. In the circumstances we have issued instructions ^{to} to the Collector of Central Excise, Delhi, to allow clearance of the goods in question under the Note and Pass system, as per copy of my D.O. placed below.

The Ministry of External Affairs may see through the Economic Affairs Department.

(These papers to be returned when done with)

Am
(A.K. Mukarji) 10.11.52.
Economic Affairs Department (Shri S.S. Shiralkar)
Ministry of External Affairs (Miss Lailamani Naidu)
Ministry of Finance (Revenue Division) U.O. No. 159-D.S. (Cus)/52
dated 10th November, 1952.

Ministry of External Affairs.

S. S. Shiralkar
10/11/52

94
JS (A) is now handling the
matter. *Am* 10.11.52

MOST IMMEDIATE
TOP SECRET

92-A

D. 3656-A90 (52)

JS (A)

26

26

27 28
98

Seen and returned with thank.

H. Dayal
11. 11. 52

Ministry of Finance (Revenue Div) -
Mr A.K. Mukherji.

Ministry of External Affairs. No. D. 3656-MS/52 dated 11.11.52

We have taken a copy of the
notes. The file is now returned
with thanks to the EA Min.

Am
13/11/52

Min of External Affairs (Mr H. Dayal)
No No 156-DS (cas)/52
13.11.52.

D. 3712-MS/52

15/11

NGO

G. G.

15.11.52

Sd. S. S. Shiralkar
10.11.52

(Ministry of External Affairs)

J.S. (AD) is now handling the matter.

Sd. L. Naidu.
10.11.52

Seen and returned with thanks.

Sd/H. Dayal.
11. 11. 52.

Ministry of Finance (Revenue Division) - Mr. A.K. Makari
Ministry of External Affairs U.O. No. D. 3656-NGO/52 d/
11. 11. 52.

Ministry of External Affairs.

Re-submitted as verbally ordered

by J.S. (AD)

11.11.52

J.S. (AD)

FS. may see the notes

from minute 90 onwards.

At this morning's meeting

FS. expressed the view that

exemption from duty on these goods

might be claimed on the ground that they

are objects of historical value. I have

spoken to Mr. Rajaram Rao of the CB&I.

He tells me that exemption on this ground

can be granted only if the articles are to

be displayed in a public place such as a

museum.

2. If this not the intention duty

will have to be paid and it is for

consideration who is to pay.

H. Dayal

11. 11. 52

Note sent to PM

Sd/-

11/11

75.

J.S. (AD)

11/11

SECRET

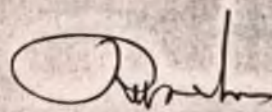
19 100 25 28
I.N.A. Treasure

This will soon be arriving and will be placed in a safe deposit vault.

2. Most of the treasure consists of damaged articles of jewellery. There are also some gold pieces. There is no provision in the Customs Law for the exemption of such articles from duty. Even Government imports have to pay duty.

3. The only alternative is to treat them as objects of historical value. If it is clearly stated at the time of import that Government's intention is to display them in a public place, such as a museum, they would be exempt from duty. I presume that some time or other, when we have an historical museum, we shall keep these articles there in a special section devoted to India's struggle for freedom. Many objects of interest connected with the INA and other freedom movements could be kept in that section.

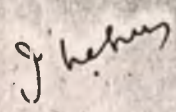
4. If P.M. could confirm that it is the intention to keep these articles in a museum at some future date--and not to sell them and use the proceeds for some national purpose--I shall inform the Central Board of Revenue that we are claiming exemption from duty on that ground.


(R.K. Nehru)
11.11.1952.

P.M.

101
PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

It is difficult to say now what we will do with these articles or gold pieces. We may inform the Central Board of Revenue that it is our present intention to treat them as historical articles which might be kept in a museum. In the event of our deciding otherwise later, we shall naturally pay such duty as may be decided upon. You should really find out from the Finance Ministry what they advise in this matter. This is, in a sense, Government property. We do not yet know what the value of it is, and what we will do with it.


(J. Nehru)
11-11-1952

~~E.S.~~
9-10-
P.T.O.

74

102

I had consulted Finance Ministry before sending this note to P.M. By an oversight, I did not mention this in my note.

2. I presume Finance Ministry will have no objection to our claiming exemption on the ground, and subject to the condition, stated in P.M.'s minute.

R.K. Nehru

(R.K. Nehru)
12.11.1952.

JS(AD).

103

The Dangle delivered the goods on arrival today. They are in my cabinet. US(G) is arranging to get them weighed. Pl. put them up in order and resubmit.

H. Dyal
12.11.52

Re-submitted.

107

JS(AD)

13.11.52

JS(AD)

I have informed Mr. Mathur of the arrival of this property, in case P.M. would care to see it. Meanwhile

US(G) is arranging weighment. Re draft herewith my ^{own} note.

H. Dyal
13.11.52

⑤ *JS(AD)*
13.11.52

S.No.109-A

FR

Pp.

Sd/- Leilamani Naidu
17.11.52

Submitted with connected papers.

2. As regards para 3 of the F.R., it would perhaps be desirable to keep this transaction separate from official accounts.

18.11.52 *[Signature]*
18.11.52

DS (F&A)

I.N.A. TREASURE

109-A

Mr. Rauf has just written to say that, in addition to the gold already sent to us, Mr. Murthy had handed over twenty thousand Yens in cash to our Embassy in Tokyo. Mr. Rauf wishes to know whether this amount may be credited to the Embassy account. Even though the Prime Minister has said that the I.N.A. Treasure is "in a sense Government property", a decision is required as to whether Government is, therefore, at liberty to utilise the cash for administrative purposes.

[Signature]
18-11-52

TOP SECRET

21 31
112
I.N.A. Treasure.

The articles of jewellery, etc. have arrived and have been kept in safe deposit. Dr Rauf is still holding 20,000 Yen in cash which is also part of the treasure. He wishes to know whether this should be credited to the Embassy account.

2. It is our present intention to treat all these articles which have been brought from Japan as historical articles. Later on they may be kept in a museum. If it is decided to keep them in a museum, we shall get the currency notes, etc. which Dr Rauf is holding and put them along with the other articles. If the decision is to sell the articles and use the proceeds for some national purpose, Dr Rauf will be asked to send us the money which will be added ~~on~~ to the other proceeds.

3. As we are still uncertain about the ultimate use of all this treasure, I think Dr Rauf should be asked to keep the currency notes, etc. with him for the present. If he sends the notes to us here, there may be some difficulty in getting them exchanged for rupees in case it is decided to use the proceeds for some national purpose and not to display the articles in a museum.

4. P.M. should see.

The money is not to be credited to the Embassy account but is to be kept separately in a safe until further instructions are sent to him.

Raich
(R.K. Nehru)
19.11.52

P.M.

113

A detailed list of the articles received might

be put up -

9 miles
19/11

FS

Raich
19/11

SECRET 114

1. Issue letter placed below.
2. Send file direct to JS(AD) for action on P.M.'s note above.

11/11
20-11-52

IMMEDIATE

① Issued vide
S.No. 115-A

31A

32

32

116

This file was taken back from Dy Minister
 for checking and weighing of the goods, which
 have been received from Tokyo. PM proposes
 to see the goods when he has time.
 After that a decision about their future
 disposition will no doubt be taken.

Dy Minister wanted the file back.
 It may kindly be returned to me
 when done with.

H. Dajal

1. 12. 52

Dy Minister

117

Sun. Thanks.

Anie K. Hassan

4. 12. 52

Keep file called for.

J. H. D.

W. H.

S. H.

St. H.

St. H.

IMMEDIATE

S.119-A.

120

P.M. asked for this information some days ago. I believe I asked J.S.(AD) to let me have a list.

~~J.S.(AD)~~

PM. is going to see
the articles at a
convenient opportunity.

Please put up the file.

(R.K.Nehru)
6.12.52

H. Dajal

6.12.52

~~S.119-A~~

Qd

6.12.52

~~J.S.(AD)~~

impossible
because

to
many

prepare a more detailed list
of the packages contain

Submitted. PM. has already been
informed of the arrival
of these articles (see minutes
112 and 113). A list prepared
here is at S. 118-B below.
9.12.52 Mr. Mathai that it was

(34) 220
quantities of broken bits of jewellery, etc, which could not easily be itemised. Suggested that PM might see these articles at a convenient time. This was agreed to, and Mr Mathai said he would let me know when PM was free to see them.

2. CBR have been consulted - see minutes 90-93, 99 and 100. It has not yet been finally decided what will be done with these articles - it was thought that they might be placed in a museum (minute 101). The decision will no doubt be taken after PM has seen them.

3. These items were, I believe, roughly valued at Rs 90,000, but an accurate valuation will require examination by a qualified person. There is in addition a sum of 20,000 yen, still with on Embassy at Tokyo.

4. The goods received here have

35

23

been kept under double lock in the Ministry,
pending a decision as to their disposal.

5. It appears that PPS to PM is
not aware of what has happened on this
case. He may see this note.

H. Dayal
6.12.52

75.



8
21/12

123
Will you please see the above
note with reference to your letter - 119-A
of 15/12 (placed below)?

Handwritten signature

PPS

124

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT.

Thanks. I am informing the Prime Minister of the
position about these articles as stated in Shri H. Dayal's
note dated the 6th December, 1952.

Handwritten signature
(B.N. Kaul)
24. 12. 52.

EA Ministry (Shri R.K. Nehru).

Pm's sectt no. no. D/S- 14826 dt 26.12.52

D. 11/21/1950/52

Handwritten signature

125
Handwritten initials

Handwritten signature
26.12.52

S/nas

Pls. submit to
VS/Ad in January.

Handwritten initials

36

230 (35)

Resubmitted with reference to D.S. (AD.I's) note dated 26.12.52 on prepage.

5.1.53
S.I. 53

128

JS (A)

PM has seen the articles and his order regarding their disposal are awaited. He has asked that the funds (20,000 yen) now held by the Embassy at Tokyo be transferred to India. Presumably Finance Ministry would have no objection to the transfer, either by bank draft or by inclusion of the amount in the Embassy's account against a corresponding payment in rupees here. This may kindly be confirmed.

H. Dayal

9.1.53

Ministry of Finance (Mr S.S. Shiralkar)

Shaw & AS (AD I)
before this time
out

YNG

S. G. desired to see Miss M. P.

10.1.53

P. S. to S. G.

(24) — (37) (37)

PM, some time ago, enquired about the I.N.A. treasure. The treasure, apart from the currency notes, has arrived. A list of the articles is attached. External Affairs Ministry say that a more detailed list is not possible to prepare because many of the packages contain quantities of broken bits of jewellery etc., which could not be easily itemized. Central Board of Revenue have been consulted and they are of the view that the duty will be payable unless the articles are treated as articles of historical value and are displayed in a museum. It has not yet been decided what will be done with these articles. These articles are roughly valued at Rs.90,000/-.

2. In addition to these articles, there is a sum of 20,000 yens still lying with our Embassy in Tokyo.

3. The articles which arrived in India are kept in the External Affairs Ministry. P.M., I understand, expressed a desire to see these articles. They can be seen at any time convenient to him.

M. Kaul
(B.N. Kaul)
24. 12. 1952.

P.M.

130

I should like to see these articles and then discuss about them with S.G. and F.S.

The money lying with our Embassy in Tokyo, i.e. 20,000 Yen, might be transferred here.

J. Nehru
(J. Nehru).
3-1-1953

P.S.

B.N. Kaul
4/1

F.S.

J.S. (S)

Janak
4/1/53 132

PM saw the articles yesterday. We shall be grateful for instructions as to their disposal. We have meanwhile received a letter from the customs authorities about assessment of duty. Duty will not be payable if the articles are kept for display in a public place such as a museum. If it is decided that they should be otherwise disposed of, they will have to be assessed to duty. The Embassy at Tokyo valued them at Rs.90,000 for purposes of insurance. This valuation seems excessive, and if any question of payment of duty arises I think we should try to arrange with the customs

S.M. 129-B

J.S. (S) should
show these
articles to P.M.

F.R.

S.M. 131-A

38
authorities to get them revalued in their presence.

2. We are arranging separately for the transfer of the amount of 20,000 yen from Tokyo in rupees.

H. Dayal
(H. Dayal)
10.1.1953.

PPS / KPM

133

As desired, these papers are returned.

12/11

177/53 PM

Shri H. Dayal

P.M.'s Sectt no. D/S-520

dt 13-1-53

(39)

I.N.A. Treasure.

I saw this "Treasure". It made a poor show. Apart from some gold pieces, it consists of charred remains of some rather cheap jewellery, chiefly some silver and gold articles, all broken up.

I think that this should be kept as it is. Apart from everything else, it is some evidence of the aircraft accident and subsequent fire. I mentioned this matter to the Finance Minister today and he said he would look into it. You might send the papers to him.

J. Nehru

(J. Nehru).
9-1-1953

MR. Shal
10.1.53 S.G.
J.S. F.S.
10/1/53

136

We have sent an interim reply to the Central Excise Directorate, Delhi, vide our letter at S.No.135-A. This file may now be sent to the Ministry of Finance (Mr. Shiralkar) with reference to J.S. (AD's) minute No.128.

2. The Ministry of Finance will no doubt show these papers to H.M. (Finance) with reference to P.M.'s minute No.134 above.

15.1.53
J.S. (AD)

The intention is that these articles should be kept in a public place. In that case we presume they will not be liable to customs duty (ref. my note at min. 99), and the necessary instructions re. exemption may be sent to the Central Excise Collector, Delhi, by CBE.

Ministry of Finance
Mr. J. Shiralkar H. Dayal
Mr. R. Rajammal 15.1.53

(90) 138

The transfer of the year to India through a bank draft does not require the approval of any authority in India but that of the Japanese exchange control. As it is possible that there would be difficulty in remitting the amount because of exchange control regulations in Japan we could have no objection, on account of the peculiar circumstances of the case, to the alternative course proposed of crediting the amount to the Embassy's account against payment in India. The instructions will have to be issued to the A.G.C.R. for making the payment in India to the appropriate party or fund. The total value involved is only about £20.

S. P. Shinde
15/1/53

M(Cus) (Shri Rajaram Rao)

141
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (REV. DIVN.)

In the light of Finance Minister's letter No. 167-PSF/53 dated 19.1.53 to P.M., instructions have been issued to the Collector of Central Excise, Delhi, exempting the articles in question from payment of customs duty, as per copy placed below.

2. The Ministry of External Affairs may now see.

(A. K. Mukarji)
21. 1. 53

Min. of External Affairs
(Mr. H. Dayal)

Min. of Fin (RD) U.O. No. 159-DS (Cus) 21/1/53

On the basis of an
letter No P216-B11/52
dated 3/4 Apr 1952
CSPM sent to Mr. Dayal
under No 6517-B3/5
of 4/5/52

139-A

140-A

M. draft instruct
as at 'A'
H. Dayal
22/1/53

21/1/53

from prepage

The precedent cited by the Ministry of Finance may please be seen at S.No.25-A of file No.31/97/NGO-52, placed below.

2. We may in the first instance ask our Ambassador in Tokyo if there would be any difficulty in remitting the amount to us because of exchange control regulations and if so, in which month's accounts the credit is shown. Draft submitted for approval. The person to whom the money is to be credited in India may kindly be indicated in the draft. Necessary instructions to the A.G.C.R. will be put up on receipt of a reply.

Home Mfr as amended.

H. Dayal

24.1.53

Reference S.No.143-A

No reply has been received so far from our Ambassador at Tokyo to our letter dated the 24th January 1953 at S.No.143-A. We may send a reminder. Draft submitted for approval.

H. Dayal

12.3.53

S.No.146-A

FR

Papers

Sd/- H. Dayal
1.4.53

Submitted with connected papers.

(This could not be submitted earlier as this file was under reference to the Ministry of Home Affairs in another connection and has been received back from them only on 16.4.53)

[J.S.(A.D.) will be interested to read para 5 of Mr. Chakravarti's letter at S.No.40-A]

Spoken to J.S.(A.D.).
Re-submitted as
J.S.(A.D.I) had already discussed
this with J.S.(A.D.)

(42)

200

148

Please put up draft reply to FR.

H. Dayal

24.4.53

Draft reply is submitted for approval.

28.4.53

DS(ADT)

This is not correct.
Please check.

S/vas

on 9/5

8/10/53. The revised draft may

issue?

29.4.53

DS(ADT)

Issue.

2. We shall appear in
A. S. C. R. of the transaction
(in a Top Secret Communication
addressed to the Addl. A.G.)
and request him to
authorize the Ministry to withdraw
the amount as soon as
the credit in suspense account
is received in India.

S/vas

on 9/5

Mr. A. (Sd)
4.5.53
(Sd)
6/5

DS(ADT)

on 9/5

Shy

28.4.53

x James

(27) 43
Reference D.S. (AD.I's) note on prepage,
a draft d.o. to Shri P.N. Krishnaswamy is submitted
for approval.

bco
5.5.53 AB
6.5.53

DS (AD.I)

on 9/5/53

S.No.153-A

FR

154

Finance Ministry, Department of Economic Affairs, Exchange Control Branch, have already agreed to the remittance of this amount to India by crediting it to the Embassy's account against payment in India, vide Mr. Shiralkar's note dated 16.1.53 at minute 138. A formal sanction may now issue as desired by the Additional Accountant General in the F.R. The draft sanction will be put up on receipt of a reply from our Ambassador in Tokyo to our letter dated 5.5.53 at S.No.150-A. The sanction may then issue from the Ministry of Finance as was done in the case cited by them in minute 138.

slip K
S.No.25-A
F.31/97/N90-52
(placed below)

bco
14.5.53 AB
14.5.53

DS (AD.I)

on 7/5/53

S.No.155-A

FR

156

Submitted with reference to our note at minute 154 above. In our letter at S.No.150-A, we specifically wanted to know the date on which the amount is credited to Government by our Embassy in Tokyo. The F.R. does not give this information. It is, however, presumed that the date would be the same as the date of the letter viz. 15th May 1953. A draft sanction is put up for approval on this basis, which may issue from the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, Exchange Control Branch.

bco
17.5.53 AB
20.5.53

DS (AD.I)

on 2/5/53

Ministry of Finance (Mr. Shiralkar)

Ministry of External Affairs

Co. No. F.25/4/16- A-22/5

44

151

290

We agree to the proposal but
it will be better if the E.A. Min issues
a memorandum, a copy of which
we shall endorse to the A.C.R.

E.A. Min (Mr. Dev Dyal)

K. K. K. K.

Muz. & Fin. U.O. No. 3073 ET 253
dt. 22.5.53

22.5.53
(P.D. Kasbekar)

D.1769-NAG/53

158

Ministry of External Affairs

A draft Memorandum is submitted
for approval.

23.5.53
25.5.53

DS (A.O.I.)

on 27/5

160

The sanction has issued. We may
now write to Shri P.K. Bardhan also, with
reference to Shri Krishnaswamy's letter dated
11.5.53 at S.No. 153-A. A draft D.O.
is submitted for approval.

3.6.53
3.6.53

DS (A.O.I.)

on 27/6

4.6.53

Plan
prepare an
O. 4. - copy
to A.C. cl.
through in. 4my
on 27/5

28/5/53

26.5.53

4.6.53

Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Branch)

45

D.No. 2445 - NGO/53

F.R. (163-A)

AD. II Branch may see the F.R. and kindly prepare the necessary bill urgently. A copy of our Memo No. F. 25/4/NGO dated 29.5.53, has already been endorsed to that branch.

The amount of Rs. 265/11, when received from the Treasury, is to be handed over to J.S. (AD).

(The NGO file will be removed before passing on these papers to AD. II Branch.)

① Remover

8/5
17/7

17.7.53
17.7.53

DS (AD II)

17/7

S/AD III

165
Ref: above.

A bill for Rs 265/11/- is placed for ms(AD II)'s signature.

Below

17/7
18/7/53

18/7

17/7

18/7/53

18/7/53

Amount 3000/-

166
Cashier may please note that the sum of Rs 265/11/- is to be paid to J.S. (AD) when the bill is passed by the Treasury
Sd/- 21/7

46

46

161

280

The bill has been paid to JSCAD on
24-7-53.

P 28/7/53

IX 28/7/53

Neto

Shk 28.7.53

20
227

(11/11) 20

SA 12

SECRET

Ministry of External Affairs.

I.N.A. Treasure.

Some months ago, PM saw the "treasure" received from Tokyo, consisting of some charred and broken pieces of jewellery.

2. 'We have now received from our Embassy at Tokyo Rs.265/10/-, being the equivalent of the amount of 20,000 Yen, which was ~~was~~ deposited there in cash.
3. The pieces of metal and the cash are in a safe in this Ministry, of which the key is in my personal custody. PM decided that the "treasure" should be kept as evidence of the aircraft accident and subsequent fire. The money too was transferred here on his instructions. Presumably it will be used for a charitable purpose.
4. The use to be made of these articles and of the money in India seems to fall outside the sphere of this Ministry. Would PM's Secretariat kindly take over the "treasure" and the cash?

H. Dayal
(H. Dayal)
29-7-53.

PPS to PM.

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT.

PM's last decision evidently was that these articles should be kept as evidence of the aircraft accident and of subsequent fire. So long as they are to serve this purpose, I suppose they have an External Affairs ~~responsibility~~. Moreover, questions about Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's death are still being raised. For the present, therefore, to my mind, they should remain with the EA Ministry. When they are to go to a museum, as Prime Minister, at an earlier stage, thought, they may be passed direct to the museum chosen for this purpose.

2. I do not know whether PM, at any stage, expressed the opinion that these articles should be used for a charitable purpose.

B.N. Kaul
(B.N. Kaul)
3. 8. 1953.

EA Ministry (Shri H. Dayal).

PM's Secy no no: 25-7813 dt 3.8.53

Put up on 29/8

The reference was not to the articles but to the money.
H. Dayal
2/8/53

04-N0.3672/PA
3/8/53

(48)

170

12/9/58

Ministry of External Affairs -

Letter to Mr. Mathai & to
Mr. Humayun Kabir about this some
time ago. Mr. Kabir said he would
let us know, after consulting the
Education Minister, where the
"treasure" could most usefully be
kept & displayed.

2. The money could perhaps be
credited to any INA Fund that might
still be in existence.

3. Meanwhile the box containing
the "treasure" and the money has
been transferred from my
office safe to the Treasury.

H. J. J. J.
25/9/58

D. (as)

171

I will speak to
Mr. Mathai about it 2 days.

2. For the present, we
shall relieve JS (Ad) of the
charge of the treasure and
keep it in one of the
Ministry's safes in AD's
Branch until arrangements can
be made for its custody
in the Treasury. We shall
write to the Collector regarding

49

him to ⁴⁹ come ³⁰ orders to the T.O.
to receive in his name into the
Treasury of the custody under
rule 73 of the Treasury Rules.

~~S/MS~~

Don't
25/5

~~9/9~~
~~25.9.53~~

172

As desired a draft letter to the
Deputy Commissioner, Delhi, is submitted
for approval.

26
26.9.53

173

The box containing the
"treasure" and its key, together
with Rs 265/10/- (rupees
Two hundred and sixty-five
and annas -/10/- only) has
been taken over by me
from Mr. H. Dayal and
deposited in the Treasurer's
safe with it in the
ledger in the Treasury.

~~S/MS~~

174

Don't
24/5

The draft below may now kindly
be approved.

DS (ADD)

OR

(3)

112 30 (58)

I have spoken to
Mr. Mathai keep pending
for the present.

2. I shall be glad
if S/Vho would kindly
arrange to have the
box / table - in an
N.A.O. and a
P.M.'s Secretariat Seal -
in my presence.

8 Doug
S/Vho
S/X/S3

20/10/53

It is
handed
over
to
Mr. B. S. B.
Phon 40868

176

D.S. (A.D.I.) desired this file to be
put up to him with reference to para. 1
of his note above.

20.10.53
20.10.53

~~D.S. (A.D.I.)~~

Resubmitted.

26.10.53
26.10.53

~~D.S. (A.D.I.)~~

Phon
S/X/S3

Please find
up in next
entry
S/Vho

Phon
S/X/S3

Ministry of External Affairs.

The notes from minutes-168 will recall this case. I discussed the question of disposal of the "treasure" with Shri M.O. Mathai during JS(AD)'s absence on leave. Shri Mathai said that he would make enquiries and let us know where the "treasure" could most suitably ^{be} kept and displayed, and would also ^{make} arrangements to take it over from us as soon as possible. The "treasure" was ~~not~~ therefore not lodged in the Treasury for safe custody. The box containing it has been sealed and kept in double lock safe of the Treasurer of the Ministry of External Affairs. Shri Mathai may be requested to make arrangements for display of the "treasure" and take it over from us.

2. The "treasure" includes a sum of Rs.265/10/- in cash. Shri Mathai said that he would obtain P.M.'s orders about the disposal of this amount.

own eye
29-10-53.

JS(AD).

Seen. I will speak to Mr Mathai
Net as know the result.

H. Nagal
30 10 53

DS (AD)

was
3/10

31.10.53

Shri V (Spec)
3/11/59

JS (AD)
note

50/100

178

have spoken to
J.S.M. U.O.

dictated

own eye
3/11

Subject:- I.N.A. "Treasure". 179

Shri M.O. Mathai will recall that I discussed the question of disposal of the INA "treasure" with him some time ago. The "treasure" was received from Tokyo and consists of some charred and broken pieces of jewellery. There is also a sum of Rs. 265/10/- in cash, being the equivalent of the amount of 20,000 yen which was deposited with our Embassy. The pieces of metal and the cash are in a locked box which has been put inside a sealed bag and deposited in the cash chest of the Ministry. This is not a very satisfactory arrangement for its safe custody.

2. Shri Mathai said that he would investigate in consultation with the Ministry of Education where the "treasure" could most usefully be kept and displayed, and would then make arrangements to take it over from us. The cash could perhaps be credited to any INA Fund that might still be in existence. We shall be most grateful if he would kindly take action as above and relieve us of the responsibility for the custody of the "treasure". He would, no doubt, obtain P.M.'s orders.

9c
(Devi Diyal)
Deputy Secretary.
3-11-53.

P.M. Secretariat (Shri M.O. Mathai).

Ministry of External Affairs.

U.O. No. 25/4/1140 07-3.11.53

23

53

Mr Himejima ¹⁸⁰Kabin of Lt Ming is coming
 over at 12 noon on Thursday
 26th Nov. to see the INA "treasure"
 from Japan. Please be present
 with the case at that time.

H. Luyal
 24. 11. 53

~~DS (as I)~~

~~Carbon~~
 noted
 25/11

on 24/11

GWD
 26/11/53

56/11/53

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

187-A
182 / 183's

Please see the attached letter from a Buddhist priest in Tokyo. You should send a copy of this letter to our Ambassador there and ask him to get in touch with the writer. The writer should be informed of the receipt of his letter and our thanks should be conveyed to him for his guarding the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. He should be told that, of course, at the proper time we shall send for the ashes and have them in India. But, for the present, we should like him to keep them under his safe custody and to look after them.

You might inform the Ambassador that he can help the priest in any way that he thinks proper, including financially in so far as any money might be required for this purpose. You will notice that in the priest's letter some reference is made to his not receiving any help privately or officially.

J. Nehru

(J. Nehru)
30-11-1953

1.12.53

SG
E.S.

183
will you please write?

D. S. Khanna

~~Disputed~~

same letter referred

4.12

4.12

184A

1860

257
"Treasure" and then take suitable action.

Sd/- M.O.Mathai
13- 11- 53.

Dr. S.S.Bhatnagar 189

Professor Kabir may kindly get into touch with the parties at once.

Sd/- S.S.Bhatnagar
13/11/53

190
Mr. H.Dayal, Mr.Roy, Superintendent, Central Asian Antiquities Museum and I saw the 'treasure'. It is a miscellaneous collection of broken fragments of jewellery, ornaments etc., some twisted metal, presumably from an aeroplane and some dust and ashes. The individual items are generally very small and their number is quite large.

All three of us were of the view that it would be difficult to exhibit these things as they are not suitable for exhibition. If there were any personal mementoes of the late Shri Subhas Chandra Bose like a watch or medal, there would have been some interest in the articles. The charred pieces of jewellery, some of which appear to be of gold and some of base metal, are not likely to arouse much interest. As for the twisted metal or dust or ashes, these also are not likely to arouse much public interest.

The best way of dealing with this 'treasure' may perhaps be to hand it over to Shri Bose's family. They may exhibit it in the Subhas Museum which is proposed to be set up in Cuttack or in the house in Elgin Road, where also a collection of his things has been made.

If it is desired that some exhibition of these articles should be made in Delhi, I would suggest that a selection of some of the broken fragments of metal or ornaments may be made and arranged in one or two shelves in a glass case and exhibited in the National Museum for a month or so. Thereafter, this and the rest of the material may be given to the late Mr. Bose's family.

Minister may kindly see. He may like to discuss this with the Prime Minister.

Sd/- Humayun Kabir
27. 11. 1953

Minister 191

I agree that these things should be handed over to the family of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. Since there is nothing in these objects of any particular interest, I do not think it is necessary to keep these objects on exhibition for a month here.

Sd/- (A.K) Azad.
28- 11- 53.

1111501

(157A)

Subject:- I.N.A. "Treasure".

Shri M.O. Mathai will recall that I discussed the question of disposal of the INA "treasure" with him some time ago. The "treasure" was received from Tokyo and consists of some charred and broken pieces of jewellery. There is also a sum of Rs. 265/10/- in cash, being the equivalent of the amount of 20,000 yen which was deposited with our Embassy. The pieces of metal and the cash are in a locked box which has been put inside a sealed bag and deposited in the cash chest of the Ministry. This is not a very satisfactory arrangement for its safe custody.

2. Shri Mathai said that he would investigate in consultation with the Ministry of Education where the "treasure" could most usefully be kept and displayed, and would then make arrangements to take it over from us. The cash could perhaps be credited to any INA Fund that might still be in existence. We shall be most grateful if he would kindly take action as above and relieve us of the responsibility for the custody of the "treasure". He would, no doubt, obtain P.M.'s orders.

Sd/- Devi Diyal
Deputy Secretary
3-11-53

P.M. Secretariat (Shri M.O. Mathai)
Min. of External Affairs u.o No. 25/4/NGO d/- 3.11.53

186

I suggest that P.M. might write to the Minister of Education to authorise someone responsible to get into touch with Shri Harishwar Dayal, Joint Secretary, E.A. Ministry to take over the "INA Treasure" and place it in the Museum in Jaipur House or Rashtrapati Bhawan.

The first thing the Education Ministry should do is to have a look at the "Treasure" and get suitable covered glass cases to be made in order to preserve the "Treasure" property.

The small amount of money might be credited to the INA Fund with the A.I.C.C.

Sd/- M.O. Mathai
3-11-53

P.M.

187

It would be desirable for the Education Ministry to take charge of this so-called "Treasure". Please ask Dr Bhatnagar or Shri Humayun Kabir about it.

2. It will not be quite proper for the money to be credited to the INA Fund. It should be held by External Affairs or by the Education Ministry till we decide about it.

Sd/- J. Nehru
12-11-53

Shri Mathai

188

I suggest that Dr Bhatnagar and Prof Humayun Kabir might kindly visit EA Ministry and see the

36

This may kindly be brought to the notice
of P.M. (56)

Sd/-Humayun Kabir
28/XI

Shri M.O.Mathai
Min of Edu u/o No D.8088/53 H2 d/- 1-12-53

193

Prime Minister's Secretariat

These articles cannot be sent to Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's family. They have shown no interest in them and they are not even now prepared to admit that Shri Subhas Chandra Bose died in this accident.

There is no question of holding an exhibition of them here. But they have to be kept here carefully. There are other articles too which are of historical value. There was a flag, a silver charka etc. All relics of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose should be carefully preserved in proper cases.

Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's ashes are still in Tokyo preserved in a temple. The question of their being brought to India has been raised from time to time, but because of the family's attitude, we have been unable to do anything.

Sd/- J.Nehru
2-12-1953

Ministry of Education

194

Mr. H.Dayal and Mr. Roy may please see. Thereafter, the "treasure" may be locked in a box and sealed, and deposited in the Museum.

Sd/- Humayun Kabir
7/12

M/E.A. (Mr. Dayal)

Ministry of External Affairs

195

I presume a representative of the Museum will come over here and take charge of the box against a formal receipt.

Sd/- H.Dayal
8.12.53

Mr.Roy (Supdt. Central Asian Antiquities Museum)
Min of External Affairs u/o No. D.5280-NGO/53

D/- 10.12.53

58

57 197

340

The box containing the 'treasure' as per list on the file was opened and the contents checked and thereafter re-locked and re-sealed with the N.G.O. seal of the Ministry of External Affairs, and handed over along with the key to Mr. J.K.Roy, Superintendent, National Museum, in the presence of Mr. A.C.Banerji of the National Museum.

Deputy Secretary
30.12.1953

(J.K.Roy)
30. 12. 1953

(A.C.Banerji)
30. 12. 1953.

198

Ministry of E. A.

I have handed over the box containing the "treasure" duly sealed along with the key to Mr. J.K.Roy, Superintendent of National Museum - vide his receipt above. The cost amount of Rs 265/- is still with me. Will P. N.'s Secretariat kindly take the amount and obtain P. N.'s orders about its disposal?

JS (H)

H. Dayal
30.12.53

DL. No. 9/PM
2/1/54

Dein 9-199
I shall speak to PM on his return from tour.
1/1/54

P. N. Secretariat / Chm

37D

and get suitable Covered glass Cases
to be made ~~to~~ in order to preserve
the "Treasure" properly.

The small amount of money might
be credited to the INA Fund with
the A.I.C.C.

M. Mathai
3-11-53

PM

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Ministry to take charge of this so-called "Treasure".
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it.

M. 187

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to be credited to the INA Fund. It should be held
by External Affairs or by the Education Ministry
till we decide about it.

J. Nehru
(J. Nehru)
12-11-53

Shri Mathai.

I suggest that Dr Bhatnagar
and Prof Humayun Kabir might kindly
visit EA Ministry and see the "Treasure"
and then take suitable action.

M. 188

Dr. S.S. Bhatnagar

Prof. Humayun Kabir is kindly go into book
with the files alone.

M. Mathai
13-11-53

PM

V. B. M.

M. 189

Subject:- I.N.A. "Treasure".

Sanjay M. 185

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Dev Diyal
(Devi Diyal)
Deputy Secretary.
3-11-53.

P.M. Secretariat (Shri M.O. Mathai).

Ministry of External Affairs. No. 25/4/1953. 27-3-11-53

M. 186

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M. 190

38 (60)

(60)

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Minister may kindly see. He may like to discuss this with the Prime Minister.

Humayun Kabir

(Humayun Kabir).
27. 11. 1953.

Minister.

M. 191

مجھے اس کے سے اتفاق ہے یہ تمام چیزیں
 شری سوبھاش چندر کے خاندان کے حوالہ کر دی جائیں
 میں نہیں سمجھتا یہاں ایک ماہ کے لیے انکا کسی حصہ کی نمائش کرنی
 مناسب ہوگی کیونکہ کوئی چیز ایسی نہیں ہے جس سے لوگوں
 کو دیکھنی ہو سکے

لڈر ۸ بر ۱۱

I agree that all these things should be
 handed over to the family of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose.
 Since there is nothing in these objects of any particular
 interest, I do not think it is necessary to keep these
 objects on exhibition for a month here.

Sd/- (A.K) Azad.
 28 - 11- 53

192

M. 192

Pls may kindly be kept till
 notice of the P.M.
 28/11

D. 5280 - 1140/53

Shri M.O. Mathai

Min of Edu W/O No 98088/53 H.D. 1-12-53

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

These articles cannot be sent to Shri Subhas
 Chandra Bose's family. They have shown no interest in the
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 was a flag, a silver charka etc. All relics of Shri Subh
 Chandra Bose should be carefully preserved in proper cases

Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's ashes are still in Tok
 preserved in a temple. The question of their being brought
 to India has also been raised from time to time, but beca
 of the family's attitude, we have been unable to do anyth

Cf. 186 A

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

J. Nehru
 (J. NEHRU)
 2-12-1952

62

Mr. H. Doyal and Mr. Roy may
please see. The after, the
"treasure" of he looked in a box
and sealed, as deposited in
the Museum.

M. 194

H. Doyal
M. E. A. (Mr. Doyal) 7/12

Ministry of External Affairs -

~~BS (H)~~

I presume a representative of
the Museum will come over here
and take charge of the box
against a formal receipt.

M. 195

H. Doyal
8.12.53

Mr. Roy (Supt, Central Asian Antiquities Museum)

Ministry of External Affairs. No. D. 5280-1140/53
196 27-10-12-53

~~BS (H)~~
separate
of M. 197

The 'Treasure' has now been
taken over from Mr. David Doyal,
De. Secretary, (Excepting the 30000 Yen)
and safely deposited in the
National Museum.

M. Roy
2/1/54.

D. 78-1140/54

Ministry of E. A. (Shri H. Doyal)

National Museum no. No. NM-14, dt. 5.1.54

~~BS (H)~~
5/1

on 9/1
H. Doyal
7/11
Add to file.
A note is expected

Ref: Notes on pre-page

(199)

D.S.(ADI) may like to speak to Shri. Mathai regarding this case. Port. PM. was extremely busy during the last few days - it is again to go 18/1 the Congress session. This matter might be till the 25th inst, & Mr. Mathai reminded thereafter.

18-1

DS (ADI)

Yes

Plan submitted

27th

January

MSV
27/1

MSV

Ref: Above

on 27/1

Resubmitted (Please See Minute and 199 - 'flagged B')

g Sale
27/1
27.1.54

DS (ADI)

201

I shall be grateful for P. M.'s orders regarding the dispo of the cash amount (Rs 265, which is in hand with u

Shri M. O.

Mathai PM's hand in

on 27/1

Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Section)

D. 297.860/54. F.R. (202-A)

Please let me have the relevant papers.
ad. A.J. Kidwai

NGO file (No.25/4/NGO) on the subject was referred to Shri M.O. Mathai on the 28th January in connexion with the disposal of the I.N.A. treasure and has not yet been received back. The F.R. was not put up earlier as it was expected that the file would be received back. The file will be put up as soon as it is received back. Meanwhile, DS(cxx) who has not seen the F.R. may please see for present information.

5/2/54

AD (S) FEA

If the file is no longer required, I would be glad to have it back, please.

6.2.54

PRIORITY

Shri M.O. Mathai (SA. to T.M.)

DS (FEA)

4/5.2.54

Pm's Secy to Govt. D/S-1303. dt 14.2.54

A sum of Rs.265/10 (two hundred sixty five/10/-) was deposited with the Cashier by D.S.(AD.I) on 30.12.53 on account of Secret Service. This amount has not so far been withdrawn although a number of reminders have been issued. ~~It is requested that the amount should be withdrawn as soon as possible.~~ Orders are solicited for the disposal of the amount as it is open to audit objection to keep such amounts undisposed for such a long time.

x.
Nagesh
Subhash
Chandra's
fund.

16.10.54 16/10/54

ns (AD III)

DS(AD I) may kindly

See for order

18/10/54

DS(AD I)

214

Please let me see the relevant papers.

ref

215

19/11/54

Shri F W

Please see Minutes 201 and 206 in

file below

19.10.54 DS(AD I)

Shri M. O. Mathan is now in Delhi

216
Please send the file to me again to Shri Mathan as per the return from him with the request that P. H. S. orders regarding disposal of the sum of Rs 265/10/- may kindly be obtained as soon as possible.

21/10

217

19/11/54

Shri M. O. Mathan P. H. S. Secy.

43
Ministry of External Affairs

I have fully discussed with Dr. Rauf the request of the priest of Renkoji temple as conveyed in Mr. Ranbir Singh's letter at F.R. Dr. Rauf said that he would like personally to discuss the matter with the Prime Minister. This, he was not able to do. He has asked me, however, not to take any action about the casket as he will try to collect some funds in Burma and take a casket from there. He has asked me to await further communication in this matter.

'A' In case Dr. Rauf does not write by the 3rd week of April, I shall write to him.

17.3.54.

H.G.O.

(NGO Section)

'A' above is noted.

2. This file was withdrawn by D.S.(EA) from S.A. to P.M. and may now be returned to him with reference to D.S.(AD.I's) note dated 27.1.54 at minute 204.

80
7.4.54 7.4.

Shri M.O. Mathai
(S.A. to P.M.)

206
I have given a note to PM already. I don't need this file

8-4-54

207

This file is resubmitted with reference to 'A' of D.S.(E.A's) note dated 17.3.54 above. No further communication has been received so far in this connection from Dr. Rauf.

As As (ZA) is on leave, JS(E) may kindly see for info. H.O.s.

80
31.5.54
7.31.5
JS(E)

We may issue a reminder

A draft is submitted for approval.

80
7.6.54 7.6.

(2)

(5)

209

433A

Ministry of E. A.

Ry. Minis 2011 206

I have spoken to Shri Mathai who has promised to obtain P.M's orders as soon as possible.

Sd/- Devi Diyal
29/6/54

211

S.No.210-A

FR

I am inclined to agree with Ambassador Rauf. Please put up previous papers, if any, early.

Sd/- T.N. Kaul
26/6

Sd/- K.P.S. Menon
26/6

Sd/- Mohd. Yunus
29/6

Submitted with connected papers. In this connection a reference is also invited to P.M's note dated 2.12.53 at minute 193, (slip 'w').

see
30.6.54 p. 206
US (FEA)
DS (EA)

W. D. James
1/7

212

In view of the Ambassador's letter, perhaps, it would not be desirable for us to do anything about a receiptable.

The F.R. does not call for a

reply.

J. R. Ramesh Singh
31/5/54

US (FEA)
NAB
3/2

3/7/54

Ministry of External Affairs.
(NGO. Section).

223

S.No.222-A.

D.S.(ADF) may please see U.S.(FG)'s note on
S.No.222-A. for information.

Ans.
16-12-54.
16.12
AS (ADF)

The Treasurer shall make
a note of the payment
in his register, and
hand over the payee's
receipt to the NGO Section
for record. The payee's
receipt shall be sent
to Shri M. O. Mathai for
his information and return.

at
Ship B
below

Shri M. O. Mathai

224

Dy. No. 5589/P.M.
Dt. 18/12/54.

I have already sent a note
to JSAD about this. It was
about three or four days ago.
In that note I had stated that
PM agrees to hand over
this amount to the INA Relief Fund.
I also suggested that you might
get into touch with the Gen Secy of
AICC. You might ring up Mr Bhargava
Perman Secy of AICC to fix up.

M. Mathai
17/12/54

D S A. T

not up
18/12/54

69

69 44

* Still in Tokyo Temple.

A small amount of Rs. 200/- and odd was received by the Minister of External Affairs from our Embassy in Tokyo along with the ashes and other remains of the late Shri Subhash Chandra Bose. This money is being kept in the External Affairs Ministry.

2. I have consulted the Prime Minister about this and he agrees that this amount might be transferred to the INA Relief Fund. The Ministry might get in touch with the General Secretary of the AICC, 7 Jangpura Road, New Delhi, and have this money transferred to the INA Fund. A receipt might be obtained for the Ministry's record.

M. O. Mathai
(M.O. Mathai)
2.12.1954.

JS(AD) - Shri Prem Krishen.

PM's Secy 4/10/54 B/S 13/70 Bt 2/12/54

Please take action.

Phunde
2/12/54

[with file 25/11 NGD]

DJ (ADF)

8/12

MS

vro

A draft letter to the General Secy. AICC put up for approval.

4/11/54
14.XII.54

JS (ADF)

Issue - as a D.O. then by name.

on 9/12

MS
7/12
221-A

70

3336-1
226
अखिल भारतीय कांग्रेस कमेटी

रसीद संख्या 901

जन्तर मन्तर रोड,
नई दिल्ली
27/11/55 CJK.-M.

902-9/55
दिनांक 16-12-55

श्री The Deputy Secretary, Ministry

of External Affairs, New Delhi

Rupees two hundred and sixty four

and annas ten only

for transfer to the INA Relief Fund

This amount was received from Tokyo along with certain

other remainders of the late श्री Subhas Chandrabose

26.5/12/55

ALL INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE
NEW DELHI



केशिबर

एकाउण्टेण्ट

स्थायी मंत्री/प्रधानमंत्री

चेक/ड्राफ्ट का रुपया हमें मिलने पर ही यह रसीद मान्य समझी जायगी।

46

(21)

This F.R. is presumably
 intended for C.T. - Br,
 not for the Cashier. With
 the Branch please confirm
 later amount of 20.

10-255

G Section

It is understood
 from the Accts of A.C.C.
 that since this
 amount was remitted
 to the Bazar Bazar
 Bazar vide this do.
 No 27 N.G. 0/54 8/9 1/54
 N.G. Section may kindly
 accept transfer of the
 receipt.

142 fees
 185/10

Sfo. N.G. 0. M.S.
 18/2

49
Ministry of External Affairs.
Cash Branch.

\$2

A sum of Rs. 265/10 was deposited with the Cashier by D.S.(Ad.I) now D.S.(F) on 30.12.53. Although a number of times reminders have been sent to the Officer concerned by him but the amount has not so far been withdrawn from us. It is requested that D.S.(~~Ad~~^{Ad} F) may kindly remind the officer concerned again to withdraw the amount as the auditors are strongly objecting to the withholding of this amount by us for so long a time.

17.11.54

I have spoken to D.S.(ADF). He in turn has requested Shri H.O. Mathai of the Prime Minister's Secy. to expedite decision for the disposal of this amount. Shri Mathai has promised to let us know shortly. Please await for some time.

20th Feb.
A. Relief Fund
Cashier

Bhalla
22.11.54.

Received in cash Rs. 265/10/-
(Rupees two hundred & sixty five and
annas ten) only.

A. P. Sharma
15.12.1954

14/11/52

228

48

73

(227A)

D. 5433-CJK/52.

(1)

The N Go Br. have the papers on the subject. They may pl. put up a draft reply.

Thv 06/14/11/52
14/11/52.

NGO
14/11/52

229

The ashes are already under the custody of our Embassy in Tokyo. Draft is being accepted. Draft is for approval which may be sent for issue.

18-11-52
us (FEA)

K.K. Ahuja
17. xi

231A
231A-CJK Br (23-A) Issue

(2) Issue.

(232)

(231A) D. 4067-NGO/52 - (3)

Who wrote this letter? Explain please.

Sd/- Leilamani Naidu
16.12.52

The intention in writing to Rev. M. Dharmeswar that the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose were in the custody of the Indian Embassy in Tokyo was that the ashes were under the control of the Embassy and within their knowledge even though they were not in their physical possession.

LEI
slip Y

2. In this connection a reference is invited to Shri K.K. Chettur's D.O. No.F.26(14)/48, dated the 1st October 1951, at S.No.37-A in file 25/4/NGO, linked below. The following quotation from this letter is relevant :-

"It may interest you to know that quite some months ago we had arranged with the Japanese Foreign Office here that the ashes would be left undisturbed and under our control in the temple until further instructions were received from this Mission. The priest himself is also

Ministry of External Affairs.
(NGO. Section).

222

S.No.222-A.

D.S.(ADF) may please see U.S.(FG)'s note on
S.No.222-A. for information.

Ans.
16-12-54.
16.12
AS (ADF)

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at
Ship B
below

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Shri M. O. Mathan

224

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about three or four days ago.
In that note I had stated that
AM agrees to hand over
this amount to the INA Relief Fund.
I also suggested that you might
get into touch with the Gen Secy of
AICC. You might ring up Mr. Bhargava
Perman Secy of AICC to fix up. — M. Mathan
17/12/54

D S Ad. T

not up
18/12/54

①

fully aware of this decision, which was explained to him in person."

48A

3. A reference is also invited to portion marked 'A' of P.M.'s letter dated 1.3.52 to Dr. B.C. Roy at S.No. 57-A of file 25/4/NGO, and to portion marked 'A' of D.S. (FEA's) note dated 14.10.52 at minute 17 of file No. 25/13/NGO-52, linked below.

4 L.F.I (slip 'R')

5 L.F.I (slip 'F')

Slip -
22/12/52

U.S. (FEA)

(This copy is put up under L.F.I -

F. 25/13/1952 was received back in the

only on 22.12.52)

I am sorry we did not mention explicitly that the ashes were in Benkoji Temple under the custody of the Indian Embassy.

V.K. Ahuja

2.34

29.12.52.

~~DS (FEA)~~

US (FEA) may clarify the position by writing to Jyoti Dharwadkar + also answer Jyoti Dharwadkar's letter (3) suitably.

JA
29.12

~~US (FEA)~~

VA
21.12.

NGO

2.35

Two drafts are submitted for approval.

Slip
2.1.53
2.1.53

~~US (FEA)~~

V.K. Ahuja

2.1.53

226 A
227 A

49
(231 H)
DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

File No.

Serial No.

Letter

Draft ~~Memorandum~~

~~Telegram~~

No. D.4067-NGO/52 Dated 5-1-53

1. Date of despatch.

2. List of enclosures.

To

Rev. M. Dharmeswar,
Nipponzan Myohoji,
Hanaokayama,
Kumamoto.
(Japan)

Sir,

2,30-14
S.M. (r)
I am directed to refer to
this Ministry's letter No.
D.5433-CJK/52, dated the 24th
November 1952, and to say that
the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra
Bose are kept in the Renkoji
temple in Tokyo under the custody
of the Indian Embassy in Tokyo.

Yours faithfully,

V.K. Ahluwalia

U.S. (FEA)

Copy forwarded to the Embassy
of India, Tokyo, for information.
By order,
U.S. (FEA)

Send 5/1

(26)

(78)

(23)

D.O. No.F.5(1)NGO-I

SECRET



TELEGRAMS: INDEMBASSY,
TOKYO

(BY DIPLOMATIC BAG)
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN
TOKYO.

11th December 1951

Dear Miss Naidu,

Will you please refer to the Ministry's letter
No.D.5433-CJK/52, dated the 24th November, addressed
to Rev. M. Dharmeswar, stating that the ashes of
Shri Subhas Chandra Bose are in the custody of Indian
Embassy in Tokyo?

2. I am afraid there is some misunderstanding as the
ashes are still in the Renkoji Temple. Please see in
this connection Mr. Chakravarti's D.O. No.25/4/NGO dated
the 18th July, 1951, to Mr. Chettur saying that the ashes
should remain where they are.

Yours sincerely,

V. C. TRIVEDI
(V.C. TRIVEDI)

Miss Leilamani Naidu,
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

Who made this
letter? Explain
Please 2. 16.12.52

US (FEA)

S No. 21-
F.25/4/1

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

File No.

Serial No.

Letter
Draft Memorandum
Telegram

No. D 5433 - CJK/SZ Dated 24-11-52

1. Date of despatch.

2. List of enclosures.

To
Rev. M. Dharmeswar,
Nipponzan Myohoji
Hanaokayama,
Kumamoto
Japan

Sir,

I am directed
acknowledge receipt of yr
letter, dated the 6th
November 1952, addressed
to the President of Ind
regarding the ashes of
Sri Subhas Chandra Bose
and to say that the
ashes are already in

P.T.O.

X223-B

Typed...
Compared...
Sent to...
Signed...
Sent...
Despatched...

6/13/21/11
22/11/52

Issued
24/11/52

June
18.11

10. V
27/11

1

BNN
24/11

230-1

52 (2)

77

77

(28)

S2A

the custody of the Indian Embassy
in Tokyo

Yours faithfully

V. K. Ahluwalia

US CFEA

Copy, together with a copy of the
letter replied to forwarded to the
Embassy of India, Tokyo, for information.

sd/-

US CFEA

7.11.

(236-1)
SECRET

(24) 29 50
D.O. No.D.4067-NGO/52

the 5th January, 1953.

Dear Mr. Trivedi,

Will you please refer to your D.O. No.F.5(1)NGO. dated the 11th December 1952, to Miss Naidu, regarding the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose ?

2. Rev. M. Dharmeswar had asked us if India Government were willing to take any steps about the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose now lying at Tokyo. Our intention was simply to tell him that the Indian Government and our Embassy in Tokyo were aware of the existence of the ashes and had full control over their disposal even though these were kept in the Renkoji temple. In this connection please refer to Mr. Chettur D.O. No.F.26(14)/48, dated the 1st October 1951, to Mr. Dutt.

3. To avoid any misunderstanding, however, we are writing to Rev. Dharmeswar again to clarify the position.

Yours sincerely,

W.A. 9
(V.K. Ahuja).

Send 5/1
V.C. Trivedi, Esq., I.F.S.,
First Secretary,
Embassy of India,
Tokyo,
JAPAN.

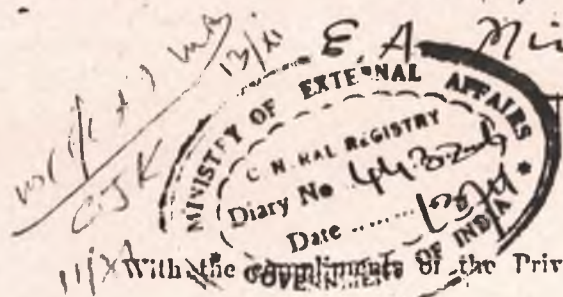
80

80

14/11

11/11/11
D. 5433-08K/52

X. Forwarded to the Secy ;
E.A. Ministry.



11/11 With the compliments of the Private Secretary
to the President, India.

X. No. D. 2223-0/52

Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi, the

11/11/

1952

(81)

54

(2214)

2223-0/52

Japan

11/XI/52

6. 11. 52

To
His Excellency
The President
of India.

Your excellency,

May I know if India government is villing to take
any step about the ashes of Sri Subhas Chandra Bose now
lying at Tokyo ? If so please inform me so that I may
move for them properly here.

I remain,

Your excellency's

etc.
Kharishwar

Address

Mr. N. H. H. H. H.

Mr. H. H. H. H. H.

Himeokayama

Kanamoto

Japan.

A. H. H. H.

80

Telephones : { 40320
45870

Telegram : CONGRESS

ALL INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE



7 JANTAR MANTAR ROAD
NEW DELHI-1

December 11, 1954.

Dear friend,

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your
D.O. No. 3227-NGO/54 dated 9th December, 1954
and authorise Shri Durga Prasad Sharma, the
bearer of this letter to take payment of Rs.
265/10/- (Rupees two hundred sixty five and
annas ten only) only received from Tokyo for
transfer to I.N.A. Relief Fund. Shri Sharma
will sign as under:

D.P. Sharma

Yours sincerely,

The amount of Rs. 265/10/-
has been paid today to Shri
D.P. Sharma and the receipt
has been kept by the Treasurer.

S. N. Agarwal
(S.N. Agarwal)
GENERAL SECRETARY

Bhalla
15/12/54
Shri Devi Dyal Bhatia,
Deputy Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI

NGO: 1145

15/12

83
CONFIDENTIAL 83 58

224
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
New Delhi,

the 9th December, 1954.

D.O. No. 3227-Ng/54.

Dear Sir,

I have been directed by the Prime Minister to hand over to you, for transfer to the I.N.A. Relief Fund, a sum of Rs.265/10/-. This amount was received from Tokyo along with certain other remains of the late Shri Subhash Chandra Bose and was being kept in the External Affairs Ministry pending instructions about its disposal.

2. I should be grateful if you would kindly have the amount collected from me (in room No.46, South Block, Central Secretariat) by a duly authorised person at an early date and let me have a receipt for our record.

Yours faithfully,

o/c
(Devi Dyal Bhatia)
Deputy Secretary.
(Tele: No.42798).

Shri S.N. Agarwal,
General Secretary,
All India Congress Committee,
7, Jantar Mantar Road,
New Delhi.

'SAMAN'
7/12



8

J.O. No. F.5(1) NGO-2
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN
TOKYO

23rd June, 1954.

D. 2124-NGO/54.

My dear Kaul,

Please refer to your demi-official letter No. F.25/4/NGO, dated the 15th June, 1954, regarding the ashes of Shri Subhas Bose.

2. Miss Naidu had shown me a letter received from Ranbir Singh in which it was suggested that we should donate a receptacle of appropriate material and quality to enshrine the ashes of the late Netaji. She was most anxious, in view of the opinion of the family and some others, that the Government of India should not be committed to an admission that they acknowledged the ashes to be genuine relics. I, therefore, suggested that I would try to persuade some admirers of Netaji in Rangoon to donate a casket for the purpose. On my way back to Japan, I had only a day and half at Rangoon and, therefore could not meet a number of people I had intended to approach. However, one gentleman to whom I talked to, was not enthusiastic about the idea.

3. The priest of the Renkoji temple is anxious for a recognition of his own status as the keeper of the ashes. Opinion of Indians here is divided. Any recognition, therefore, would be a source of controversy. It would not so much matter about the Indians locally but the opinion in Bengal refuses to accept the fact of Netaji's death and, therefore, of the genuineness of the ashes. I would, therefore, suggest that so long as we can, we should try and keep things as they are until opinion in Bengal changes to accept the fact of his death.

Yours sincerely
M. A. Rauf

Shri T.N. Kaul,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi

(M. A. Rauf)

SECRET



सत्यमेव जयते

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
NEW DELHI,

The 15TH June, 1954.

D.O.No.F.25/4/NGO.

My Dear Ambassador,

Kindly refer to Ranbir Singh's D.O.
No.F.5(1)NGO-I, dated the 16th January 1954,
to Leilamani Naidu, regarding his talk with
the priest of the Renkoji temple about the
ashes of Shri Subhas Bose?

2. ~~In this connection you will remember~~
that you had a discussion with Miss Naidu on
this matter when you were last in Delhi, and
you had suggested that no action need be
taken by us until we heard further from you.
We should be grateful if you would kindly send
us your ^{better} views as early as possible.

Yours sincerely,

(T.N. Kaul)

Dr. M.A. Rauf,
Ambassador of India,
TOKYO.

'SAMAN'
11/6

211-A

86



Please let me have
his warrant holder.
FEA. 25.1.54

D.O. No. F.5(1)NGO-I
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN
TOKYO

16th January, 1954.

My dear Min Naidu,

Will you please refer to your D.O. letter No. D. NGO/53, dated the 4th December, 1953, to the Ambassador, contained certain instructions about Subhas Babu's ashes

2. In the absence of the Ambassador, I opened your and, recently, visited Mochizuki-San at the Renkoji temple. I was accompanied by a colleague, Shri. M.S. Nair, Registrar in our General Section, who speaks Japanese fluently.

3. We thanked the priest, on behalf of the Government of India, for the care he has bestowed on these ashes; and told him that, at a proper time, they would be sent to India. Should he require financial assistance, we would be happy to provide it; but we hoped for his agreement to continue as the guardian of the ashes for some time.

4. Though repeatedly pressed to accept financial assistance, the priest made it very clear that he had kept the ashes, voluntarily, because of his high regard for Subhas Babu, which, in itself, made it impossible for him to accept any money.

5. He then told us in a round-about-way that the guardianship of these ashes was a source of worry to him; that some of the few-score Indians who have visited the temple and the ashes have not behaved with due respect towards them; that he sought to have it stated officially, and publicized by this Embassy, that the ashes were in his keeping. If we could we arrange to provide a receptacle, of artistic design, made preferably in India, in which the ashes would be placed. This receptacle would be on a shelf, in the temple, between two lighted candles; and visitors could make their obeisance before it. Of course, whether Buddhists (Mochizuki-San is a member of the Nichiren sect) or Shintoists, the Japanese venerate, greatly, the ashes of the dead.

6. As you know, many of our fellow-citizens living in Japan, as well as some of those at home, remain convinced either that these ashes are not those of Subhas Babu or that he is still alive. Such evidence as we have, on the record file, indicates that he is dead and it is likely, though

absolutely certain, that these ashes are his.

7. Any official statement by this Embassy of the type required by the priest would raise a storm of protest among some of our more obstinate fellow-citizens here.

8. The priest agreed to continue to look after the ashes and we were able to dissuade him from insisting on public acknowledgment which, we implied, would, of course, be given when the ashes were, finally, taken to India.

9. The ashes are, at present, kept in a cupboard in the temple and, when visitors arrive, they are taken out and placed between two candles - below a small photograph of Subhas Babu. They are kept in a small box about 9" X 6", which seems to be either tin or wood, and are covered by a white and somewhat transparent cloth which is almost gauze. This manner of viewing them is rather undignified. I would be grateful to have early instructions about the priest's request for the provision of a suitable receptacle. The points for decision are, firstly, whether we should comply with this request and, secondly, whether the receptacle should be made in India or obtained in Japan. Should it be decided to make one in India, I will consult the priest again and provide details about the sort of receptacle he wishes to have.

10. You may be interested to hear that the priest told me that about one hundred persons, including Indians and Japanese, had visited him and been shown the ashes. Certain Americans had also come, to use his own words, to "worship" the ashes. It was sad to hear that the conduct of some of our own people had been lacking in propriety.

11. The Renkoji temple is fairly large and is well looked after. I am quite convinced that Mochizuki-San does not require financial assistance to look after the ashes. He is a pleasant man of about 60 and I have little doubt that his genuine regard for Subhas Babu derives from his sincere, though metaphysical and ill-founded, belief, that Japan's Asian venture, if successful, would have been the fulfilment of a noble and humanitarian purpose.

12. I shall be grateful for instructions.

Shrimathi Leilamani Naidu,
Deputy Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi

Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,
Ranbir Singh
(Ranbir Singh)

(88) D.O.No. D.5219-1140/53

December 4, 1953.

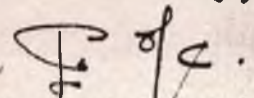
184-A

My dear Rauf,

181-A
I enclose a copy of a letter addressed to the Prime Minister by the Priest of Renkoji, a Buddhist temple in Tokyo where the ashes of the late Shri Subhas Chandra Bose are enshrined. The Prime Minister desires that the priest be informed of the receipt of his letter and, on behalf of the Government of India, thanked for his guarding the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. He should also be told that, at the proper time, we shall send for the ashes and have them in India. But, for the present, we should like him to keep them under his safe custody and look after them.

In the priest's letter, some reference is made to his not receiving any help privately or officially. The Prime Minister would therefore like you to help him in any way you think proper, including financially in so far as any money might be required for this purpose.

Yours sincerely,


(Leilamani Naidu)

Dr. M.A. Rauf,
Ambassador of India,
TOKYO.

5/12
4/12

89
His Excellency,
Dr. Pandit Jawaher Lal Nehru,
The Prime Minister of India.
New Delhi, India.

89
D. 5219-1160/53
181-A
Kyohei Mochizuki
130, 2-chome, Koenji,
Suginami-ku, Tokyo,
Japan.
November 25, 1953.

Dear Sir:

I am the priest of Renkoji, Buddhist temple in the suburbs of Tokyo City. I have the honour to send this letter to you, guided by the soul of the late Sath Chandra Bose ji. I have been keeping the ashes of Netaji safely, and praying for the repose of his soul since September 18 in 1945. Eight years have already passed since that time. Japan was under Occupation eight years ago, during which Japanese people were living their stormy life in social confusion. Therefore, apprehensive of consequences, none would accept Netaji's ashes to keep it safely.

I, a stranger to the late Netaji, was asked to keep the ashes by people who were strangers to me including Indians of whom I have never heard since that time. I thought anyone's soul should be warmly worshipped under whatever circumstances. According to such belief as a religionist who serve the spiritual world, I have secretly been guarding Netaji's ashes at the risk of my life. I have been so watchful that even small noises at midnight startle me.

In June, 1951, Ex-Indian Ambassador to Japan, His Excellency, K.K.Chettur, invited me to his official residence. And I was officially asked to keep the ashes by him, as the representative of the Indian Government. The witness was Mr. Tamura, Chief of the Ceremony Section of the Foreign Office of Japan. So my responsibility and duties for keeping the ashes have become more important.

Frankly speaking, I must inform you that, in spite of many inconveniences and trouble I underwent in keeping the ashes, I have never received any help privately and officially. But I believe I can keep up Netaji's soul perfectly by recognizing the importance of duties assigned me and with my strong belief as a religionist.

184-A
1111. 182

Now Japan is not under Occupation. The peaceful relations between Japan and India have been reestablished. So, it is meaningless and pity for the late Netaji that his ashes should be kept in a temple of a foreign country, lonely and secretly, after all his vain efforts to bring about the independence of India and happiness of Asia. I think now is the time when such a significant plan as vivifies the historical achievements and sacred spirit of Netaji eternally for both Asia and mankind should be adopted.

During the latest equinox week, I dreamed a strange dream of Netaji two nights on end. The dream was enough to make me lose the peace of my mind as a religionist.

Such is the background of my taking the liberty of expressing my personal view in this letter, which I write as a religionist and a priest who is charged with such an important responsibility by the Indian Government.

I should be much obliged if you would kindly understand me, and send me, directly, if possible, any suggestions you may have as to the disposal of the late Netaji's ashes.

Sincerely yours,

Kyoei Mochizuki

Kyoei Mochizuki
Priest of Renkoji-Temple.

91
Draft ~~XXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXX~~

File No.

Serial No

1. Date of despatch

No. F.25/4/NGO.

Dated

2. List of enclosures

To

Satish Chandra, Esq., I.C.S.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Delhi.

Sir,

Not issued

I am directed to say that under instructions from the Prime Minister we have obtained from Japan some property belonging to the former "Indian National Army". This property, which is known as "I.N.A. Treasure", consists of some pieces of gold and charred and broken pieces of jewellery, and was handed over to us by the officials of the India Independence League at Tokyo, who kept it with them since the reported death of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose.

2. The Prime Minister has decided that the "treasure" should be kept as evidence of the aircraft accident in which Shri Bose met his death.

3. I am accordingly to request you to authorise the Treasury Officer, New Delhi to receive the "treasure" into the Treasury for safe custody under Rule 73 of the Treasury Rules. A list of the articles in question is enclosed for your information. Besides these, an amount of Rs.265/10 is held in cash, being the equivalent of 20,000 Yen which was deposited in our Embassy at Tokyo. This amount may also be taken over by the Treasury Officer.

Yours faithfully,

MEMORANDUM

No. TDIV. 15-1-1221

From

ACCOUNTANT GENERAL
CENTRAL REVENUES,
NEW DELHIThe Treasury Officer,
New Delhi.Subject... Payment... to the M/Ex... Affairs New Delhi.
Sir,

I am to request that arrangements may please be made to pay a sum of Rs. (265-11-0) Two hundred and sixty five -/11/-) to the Govt. of India M/E.A. New Delhi on a simple receipt.

2. The debit may please be passed on to this office in the usual manner quoting this letter as authority.

3. A copy of this is being endorsed to the Ministry of E.A.

Yours Faithfully,

RK

TDIV - 15-1/1222

15 JUL 1953
(C.R. 300D).

Copy to the Ministry of E.A. New Delhi for information and necessary action with reference to their memo No. F.25/1/NGO dated 29.5.53. The bill for the purpose may please be preferred at the New Delhi Treasury.

S.-185

Modern India Press-20-101-48-PJ. (M.F.P.)-2438-1-1950 Pads.-6923-50-1-1-51 Civil-11-6-48.

ASSISTANT ACCOUNTS OFFICER
CENTRAL REVENUES

His 164 - 167

TOP SECRET. 68

Shri P.K. Bardhan,
Deputy Accountant General,
Central Revenues, New Delhi.

D.O.No. DAG(1)/CD/7

Dt. 10.6.53.

Sub:- Credit of 20,000 Yens in
the Embassy of India, Tokyo.

My dear Devi Diyal,

Kindly refer to your top secret
letter No.F-25/4/NGO, dated the 5th
June, 1953. The sanction of the Ministry
of Finance, Department of Economic
Affairs to the transfer of 20,000 Yens
to India through Govt. Account has been
received in this office. The necessary
authority enabling the Ministry to
withdraw the amount in India will be
issued as soon as the Cash Account of
the Embassy of India, Tokyo showing the
credit is received in this office.

Yours sincerely,

P.K. Bardhan
(P.K. Bardhan) 10/6/53

Shri Devi Diyal,
Deputy Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

(94) 66
101/1000
161-A
No.F.25/4/NGO.

Dated the 5th June 1953.

Subject: Credit of 20,000 Yen (Rs.265/11) in the Embassy of India, Tokyo.

My dear Bardhan, 153-A

Please refer to Shri P.N.Krishnaswamy's D.O. No. AG(Addl)/F.MISC/15, dated the 11th May 1953, on the subject mentioned above. We have now obtained the sanction of the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, Exchange Control Branch, to the transfer of 20,000 Yen to India, through Government account- vide our Official Memorandum No.F.25/4/NGO, dated the 29th May 1953. 158-A

2. It is requested that the necessary authority enabling this Ministry to withdraw the amount in India may now be issued.

Yours sincerely,

Dev
(Devi Diyal)

Amud
5/1
Shri P.K.Bardhan,
Sr. Deputy Accountant General,
Central Revenues,
New Delhi.

%c.

162-A

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

Draft ~~XXX~~
Memorandum
~~XXXX~~

File No.

Serial No.

1. Date of despatch

No. F.25/4/NGO.

Dated

29-5-53

2. List of enclosures

To

The A.G.C.R., New Delhi.

The undersigned is directed to say that a sum of Rupees two hundred and sixty five and eleven annas may be paid in New Delhi on a simple receipt to the Ministry of External Affairs against the credit of an equivalent amount in Japanese currency (20,000 yen) received by the Embassy of India in Tokyo and appearing in the monthly account of that Embassy for May 1953 under the head:

"Tokyo - Suspense - Miscellaneous receipts from Indians.
(Adjustable in India)."

2. This amount does not relate to the Government account but its remittance to India through Government account in the above manner has been sanctioned by the Government of India as a special case.

3. A copy of this Memorandum is being forwarded to you through the Ministry of Finance.

D.S.(AD.I)

Copy, together with three spare copies, forwarded to the Ministry of Finance (Shri P.D. Kasbekar) for communication to the A.G.C.R. Sanction has been accorded with the concurrence of that Ministry vide their u/o No.3073-E.F.I/53, dated the 22nd May 1953.

2. Copy to AD.III/Accounts Branches.

D.S.(AD.I)



D.O. No. F.5(1)NGO-I

TOP SECRET

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN
TOKYO

15th May 1953

My dear

Dev Diyalji

Will you please refer to your demi-official letter No. F.25/4/NGO of the 5th May 1953?

2. The 20,000 Yen (Rs 265/11/-) in question has been credited to Government and entered in our Cash Account under the head "Tokyo-Suspense-Miscellaneous receipts from India (Adjustable in India)".

Yours

(M.A. Rauf)

Shri. Devi Diyal,
Deputy Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi

152-158 + 159 A

92
D.O.No. AG(Addl)/F.MISC/15

153-A
TOP SECRET.

P. N. Krishnaswamy, I.A. & A.S.,
Addl. Accountant General,
Central Revenues,

Curzon Road,

New Delhi, 11th May, 1953.

Subject:- Credit of 20,000 Yen (Rs. 265/11)
in the Embassy of India, Tokyo.

s/ran
12/5/53
My dear Devi Diyal,

152-A
Please refer to your d.o. letter No.F.25/4/NGO dated the 9th May, 1953 on the subject mentioned above. I think that the transfer of 20,000 Yen to India, belonging to the Funds of the Indian National Army, should be sanctioned by the Finance Ministry, Department of Economic Affairs, Exchange Control Branch. It is better that you take the necessary sanction from them for the remittance of this amount to India. This case will, in future, be dealt with by the TAD Branch of my office, which is under the supervisory charge of Shri P.K. Bardhan, Sr. Deputy Accountant General. I will hand over these papers to him and you may please correspond with him directly in respect of this case.

Yours sincerely,

P.N. Krishnaswamy
11/5/53

Shri Devi Diyal Bhatia,
Dy. Secretary to the
Government of India,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

154, s.m. 159-A
161-A

98
20
152-A
No.F.25/4/NGO.

Dated the 9th May 1953.

Subject: Credit of 20,000 Yen (Rs.265/11)
in the Embassy of India, Tokyo.

My dear Krishnaswamy,

S.No. 157-A
A sum of 20,000 Yen (Rs.265/11) is lying with our Embassy in Japan as part of the funds of the Indian National Army under the late Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. This is not Government money, but it has been decided to transfer it to India through Government account, as remittance through normal banking channels was not conveniently practicable. In this connection I enclose a copy of my letter No.F.25/4/NGO, dated the 5th May 1953, to our Ambassador in Tokyo.

2. It is requested that this Ministry may be authorised to withdraw the amount for payment to the authorities of the fund as soon as the credit in the suspense account is received in India.

Yours sincerely,

(Devi Diyal) *9/5*

9/5
Shri P.N.Krishnaswamy,
Additional Accountant General,
Central Revenues,
New Delhi.

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

TOP SECRET

Draft Letter
Memorandum
Telegram

File No.

Serial No.

1. Date of despatch

No. F.25/4/NGO,

Dated 5-5-1953.

2. List of enclosures

My dear Ambassador,

Will you please refer to your
D.O. letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I, dated the 24th
March 1953/?
4. Dayal

2. The amount of 20,000 Yen (Rs 265/
and *and*) may kindly be credited to Government/in yo
Cash Account under the head "Tokyo-Suspens
with the particulars - "Miscellaneous
receipts from Indians". The date on which
this is done and other necessary particula
may kindly be intimated to us in due cours
when steps will be taken here to withdraw
the amount. *in rupees - India*

Yours sincerely,

DS(ADD)

Dr. M.A. Rauf,
Ambassador of India,
TOKYO (JAPAN)



280
D.O. No.F.5(1)NGO-I

72
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN
TOKYO

146-1
24th March, 1953.

TOP SECRET

(BY DIPLOMATIC BAG)

Pp
D
2/4
4/11/53
7.4.53
My dear Harish,

Will you please refer to your D.O. letters
No. F.25/4/NGO and No.F.25/4/NGO, of the 24th of
January and 17th of March, 1953, respectively?
2. We suggest that we credit this amount of
20,000 Yens in our official accounts and a
corresponding payment in Rupees may be made in
Delhi. The exact amount in Rupee equivalent would
be Rs.265-11-0. Please let me know the head under
which this money should be credited in our accounts.

143-A
+145-A
Yours sincerely,

(M.A. RAUF)

Shri H. Dayal, I.C.S.,
Joint Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

Res. 147 to 149 + 150 - A

Top Secret

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE

File No
Serial No

Letter
Draft Memorandum
Teletype

No. F.25/4/NGO.

Date 17-3-53

My dear Ambassador,

Subject: I.N.A. ~~Memorandum~~
Treasury.

Will you please refer to

my D.O. Letter No. F.25/4/NGO,

dated the 24th January 1953,

regarding the transfer of Yen

20,000, ~~the amount of~~

2. We shall be grateful to you

for an early reply.

Yours Sincerely
J.S. (AD)

Dr. M.A. Kaul,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo (Japan)

1. Date of despatch

2. List of enclosures

143-A

17/3

101

101

73

102
24 (10)
145
Top Secret

No: F.25/4/MGO
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi, January 24, 1953

My dear Ambassador,

Will you please refer to Miss Naidu's D.O. No. F.25/4/MGO, dated the 20th November 1952, regarding the I.N.A. properties ?

2. The Prime Minister has now directed that the Yen 20,000/- lying with you should be transferred here. Can you send the amount to us by bank draft ? If this is not possible under the Japanese Government's exchange regulations, or for any other reason, we shall have to find other means of transferring the money. One way would be for you to credit the amount in your official accounts and for a corresponding payment in rupees to be made here. But this should not be done unless you get clear instructions from the Ministry, indicating the head to which the money should be credited in your accounts.

Done
27/1

Yours Sincerely,



(H. Dayal)

o/l

Dr. M.A. Rauf,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo (Japan)

103 25 140-7
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (REVENUE DIVISION)

No. 159-DS(Cus.)/52 New Delhi, the 21st January 1953

To
The Collector of Central Excise
(Shri N.L.Mehta),
Delhi.

Sub:- Gold ornaments etc. brought
in in one steel attache case
from Japan by Mr.Damle of the
Ministry of Food & Agriculture -
Exemption from Customs duty
thereon.

...
Please refer to the correspondence resting
with your Collectorate letter C.No.VIII(1)/2(78)/
52/85 dated the 17th January 1953 on the above-
mentioned subject.

2. The Government of India have decided,
as a special case, that the gold ornaments etc.
contained in the above-mentioned steel attache
case be exempted from payment of Customs duty.

Sd. /- (A. K. Mukarji)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt.
of India.



सत्यमेव जयते

FINANCE MINISTER.
INDIA. 139

No. 167-P3F/53

New Delhi,
January 19, 1953.

My dear Prime Minister,

Sub:- "Indian National Army" Treasure -
Question of exemption from Customs
duty thereon.

You mentioned the other day that the Customs authorities had asked for payment of customs duty amounting to about Rs. 20,000/- on the import of some personal effects and gold valued at about Rs. 80,000/- belonging to the late Shri Subhas Chandra Bose and wondered why the Government in whom this property now vested should be required to pay customs duty.

2. Under the law as it stands, even goods imported by Government have to pay Customs duty unless they are covered by a specific exemption; the Finance Ministry did not consider that there were any strong grounds for grant of exemption from duty in respect of the "I.N.A. Treasure" unless it was of historical interest and was to be exhibited in a public place. Subsequent to our discussion the other day, papers were received from the Ministry of External Affairs in which you recorded a minute on the 11th November 1952 that it is the present intention to treat the I.N.A. Treasure as historical articles which might be kept in a museum and that, in the event of a decision otherwise later, such duty would be paid as may be decided upon. In the circumstances and on the analogy of the free entry permissible under the law of works of art, such as, statuary and pictures intended to be put up for the public benefit in a public place, instructions are being issued, as a special case, exempting the articles in question from payment of customs duty.

Yours sincerely,

C. D. Deshmukh

(C.D. Deshmukh)

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru,
Prime Minister, New Delhi.

(105) 22
D.O. No.F.25/4/NGO (135-A)

the 15th January, 1953.

My dear Sawhney, 131-A

Please refer to your d.o. letter No.VIII(1)2/78/52/46, dated the 8th January, 1953, regarding the Customs duty payable on the contents of a steel trunk brought by Mr. K.R. Damle.

2. We are taking up the question of exemption from payment of Customs duty in this case with the Finance Ministry (Revenue Division) separately. A further communication will follow in this connection in due course.

Amad
15/1
Yours sincerely,

C.
(C.M. Sharma)

Shri G.S. Sawhney,
Central Excise Collectorate, Delhi
New Delhi. Talkatora Barracks.

106 28 131-1
CENTRAL EXCISE COLLECTORATE DELHI,
(TALKATORA BARRACKS.)

D.O.C.NO. VIII(1)2/78/52/46
New Delhi, the 8th Jan. 1953.
74

My dear Sharma,

Please refer to your interview with me in connection with a steel trunk brought by Mr. K.R. Damle, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture from Tokyo and since released through the Customs under the Note Pass Procedure. It was understood that you had a detailed list showing the prices of the contents of trunk and you had agreed to supply the same to me in order to enable me to assess the duty and to raise the necessary debts against your Ministry. The list may please be forwarded to me now for necessary action.

Yours sincerely,

(G.S. SAWHNEY.)

Shri C.M. Sharma,
Under Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

135-A

102

Package 1.

Bundle. I

129.8

Charred rings and pendants.

400 grams

Package 2.

Charred and broken bangles, pins, buckles, etc. 2 kilograms, 560 grams

Package 3.

Charred and broken bangles, pendants, snuff box, medals, coins and rings.

325 grams.

Package 4.

Charred necklace pieces, medals and rings

325 grams.

Package 5.

Charred ear-rings, nose-rings, rings, mostly with stones 700 grams.

Package 6 .

Charred and broken bangles and anklets

1 kilogram, 700 grams.

Package 7.

Charred and broken rings, nose-rings and pendants

825 grams.

Package 8.

Charred rings and nose-rings.

425 grams

Package 9.

Charred necklace, bangles, brooches and nose-rings.

320 grams.

Package 10.

Charred ear-rings with stones and rings.

425 grams.

Package 11.

Charred rings.

105 grams.

Package 12.

Charred rings and chain.

200 grams.

Package 13.

Charred rings and buttons.

50 grams.

Package 14.

Charred ear pendants.

50 grams.
8.410

BUNDLE II.

Charred gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc.

3.500

BUNDLE III.

Metal, mostly base and dust.

1.600

AYER'S LOT

(1) 9 pieces of gold : 300 grams

100) 50 122

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

From time to time we have been asked questions about Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. I think you might keep the attached cutting-for reference in this connection.

127-B

J. Nehru

(J. Nehru)
21-12-1952

[Signature]
24.12.52

~~C.S.~~
~~F.S.~~

[Signature]
27/12

AS (F.D.) 22.12

[Signature]
22/12/52

NGO.

109
No.F.5(1)/NGO-I

109
TOP SECRET
(BY DIPLOMATIC BAG)

TELEGRAMS: INDEMBASSY,
TOKYO

126
— EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN
TOKYO.



5th December, 1952.

My dear *Harish*,

ble.
11/12
S/NGO
Gh. Gf
12.12.52
Please refer to your Top Secret D.O. letter No.F.25(4)NGO, dated the 15th November, 1952, which has crossed my D.O. letter No.F.5(1)NGO-I, dated the 14th November to Miss Naidu. *109-A*

2. It was explained in my letter mentioned above that a copy of the list was enclosed in Chettur's D.O. letter No.F.26(14)/48 dated the 20th October to Dutt. *108-A*

In view of this, I did not think it proper to reopen the packages which were sealed at the time the weighment was made and delivery taken from Murthy, so as to prepare another list. The list sent with Chettur's letter may, therefore, be utilised for the purposes of check. Another copy of the list was sent to you only for reference.

With kind regards,

Yours *Swami*

M.A. RAUF
(M.A. RAUF)

H. Dayal, Esq., *I.C.S.*,
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

110

SZ

No.D/S/13966

D.4120-1420/SZ

119-A



PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

5th December, 1952.

My dear Ratan,

Prime Minister would like to know whether the INA treasure has arrived from Tokyo. If so, what is the value of the articles which have arrived and where have they been kept? Has any information been sent to the Finance Ministry about the manner in which it is proposed to dispose of these articles?

119-B

2. I enclose herewith a cutting from the "Bombay Chronicle" dated the 4th December, 1952, which may be of interest to you and which may be of some use for reference.

Yours sincerely,

(B.N. Kaul)

Shri R.K. Nehru, I.C.S.,
Foreign Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

Bombay Chronicle
Bombay 4.12.52

BRING NETAJI'S RELICS TO INDIA, ASIANS SUGGEST

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

INDORE, December 3.

IN talks with me at Sanchi this week, people from all over Asia expressed hope that the countrymen of Subhas Chandra Bose would soon take steps to bring his relics to his motherland for being enshrined either at India's capital or at Subhas's birthplace.

The relics of Netaji are now enshrined in a small Buddhist temple near Tokyo where a monk has been offering worship since August 1945, when Subhas Bose expired from burns sustained in a plane accident.

Valuable information was gathered by me at Sanchi, where I met a Buddhist monk, who returned last week from Japan after attending the International Buddhist Conference. This Indian monk has also brought with him details of the plane accident and a photograph of the casket of Netaji's relics which has been placed above a portrait of his military uniform.

Entries in the diary show dates of the death, collection of his relics and their enshrinement in the temple, all of which took place in August 1945. The small temple was chosen for security reasons.

This Buddhist monk was the first man since the enshrinement, who was allowed to touch the relics as he happened to come from Netaji's land.

The Buddhist monk has also brought a copy of the message that was dictated by Subhas Bose before his expiry in the military hospital wherein he has observed that he fought for the country's freedom while alive and was giving his life for the same purpose. The message exhorted his countrymen to intensify the fight for India's independence.

112

84

118-A

These lists of "treason"
received from Japan, may
be placed on the file 118-B
The list at "D" was prepared
here by US(G) after
check. This may be
not.

Kodagol
5/12/52

Shirley
5/12/52
S/NGO
Spring

BUNDLE I

		Weight as in the Statement	As ascertained by actual weighing
Package No. 1	Charred rings and pendants	400 grams	399.90 grams - 0.10 gm.
Package No. 2	Charred and broken bangles, pins buckles etc	2 Kgms 560 gms	2 Kgms 447.07 gms - 112.93
Package No. 3	Charred and broken bangles, pendants, snuff box, medals, coins and rings	325 gms	315.70 gms - 9.3
Package No. 4	Charred necklace pieces, medals and rings	325 gms	314.60 gms - 10.4
Package No. 5	Charred ear-rings, nose-rings, rings, mostly with stones	700 gms	624.32 gms - 75.68
Package No. 6	Charred and broken bangles and anklets	1 Kgm 700 gms	1 Kgm 643.65 gms - 56.35
Package No. 7	Charred and broken rings, nose rings and pendants	825 gms	797.05 gms - 27.95
Package No. 8	Charred rings and nose rings	425 gms	424.75 gms - 0.25
Package No. 9	Charred necklace, bangles, brooches and nose-rings	320 gms	303.55 gms - 16.45
Package No. 10	Charred ear-rings with stones and rings	425 gms	415.55 gms - 9.45
Package No. 11	Charred rings	105 gms	108.05 gms + 3.05
Package No. 12	Charred rings and chain	200 gms	201.55 gms + 1.55
Package No. 13	Charred rings and buttons	50 gms	44.22 gms - 5.78
Package No. 14	Charred ear pendants	50 gms	48.05 gms - 1.95

BUNDLE II

Charred gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc

3 Kgms 500 gms

3 Kgms 442 gms - 58

BUNDLE III

Metal, mostly base and dust

1 Kgm 600 gms

Not weighed -

AYER'S LOT

9 pieces of gold

300 gms

298.75 gms - 1.25

BUNDLE I

		Weight as in the Statement	As ascertained by actual weight
Package No. 1	Charred rings and pendants	400 grams	399.90 grams
Package No. 2	Charred and broken bangles, pins buckles etc	2 Kgms 560 gms	2 Kgms 447.07 g
Package No. 3	Charred and broken bangles, pendants, snuff box, medals, coins and rings	325 gms	315.70 gms
Package No. 4	Charred necklace pieces, medals and rings	325 gms	314.60 gms
Package No. 5	Charred ear-rings, nose-rings, rings, mostly with stones	700 gms	624.32 gms
Package No. 6	Charred and broken bangles and anklets	1 Kgm 700 gms	1 Kgm 643.65 gms
Package No. 7	Charred and broken rings, nose rings and pendants	825 gms	797.05 gms
Package No. 8	Charred rings and nose rings	425 gms	424.75 gms
Package No. 9	Charred necklace, bangles, brooches and nose-rings	320 gms	303.55 gms
Package No. 10	Charred ear-rings with stones and rings	425 gms	415.55 gms
package No. 11	Charred rings	105 gms	108.05 gms
package No. 12	Charred rings and chain	200 gms	201.55 gms
package No. 13	Charred rings and buttons	50 gms	44.22 gms
Package No. 14	Charred ear pendants	50 gms	48.05 gms

BUNDLE II

Charred gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc

3 Kgms 500 gms

3 Kgms 442 gms

BUNDLE III

Metal, mostly base and dust

1 Kgm 600 gms

Not weighed

AYER'S LOT

9 pieces of gold

300 gms

298.75 gms

(114)

Package 1

✓ Charred rings and pendants

400 grams

Package 2

✓ Charred and broken bangles, pins, buckles, etc. 2 kilograms, 560 grams

Package 3

✓ Charred and broken bangles, pendants, snuff box, medals, coins and rings

325 grams.

Package 4

✓ Charred necklace pieces, medals and rings

325 grams.

Package 5

✓ Charred ear-rings, nose-rings, rings, mostly with stones 700 grams.

Package 6

4/11 ✓ Charred and broken bangles and anklets 1 kilogram, 700 grams.

Package 7

✓ Charred and broken rings, noserings and pendants

825 grams.

Package 8

✓ Charred rings and nose-rings

425 grams.

Package 9

✓ Charred necklace, bangles, brooches and nose-rings

320 grams.

Package 10

✓ Charred ear-rings with stones and rings

425 grams.

Package 11

✓ Charred rings

105 grams.

Package 12

✓ Charred rings and chain

200 grams.

Package 13

✓ Charred rings and buttons

50 grams

Package 14

✓ Charred ear pendants

50 grams
8.410BUNDLE II

Charred gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc.

3.500

BUNDLE III

Metal, mostly base and dust

1.600

AYER'S LOT

(1) 9 pieces of gold : 300 grams

(2) ¥ 20,000/- | Still with

Embassy Tokyo.
6.12.52

I

Weight as
found
in the lot

Weight as
assayed by
us -

116

Gold Mixed with
Molten Metal, Iron etc. See Key

See
6/6/5

89

(17)

COMPARATIVELY PURE GOLD }
IN PAPER BUNDLES ONLY } Eight and half kg

The increase in weight is
apparently due to different
Scales used for
weighing.

Sda
6/6/51

90 178
D.O.No. F. 25/4/NGO.

TOP SECRET
115
20th November, 1952.

Subject: I.N.A. PROPERTIES

*Encl
20/11*
My dear Rauf,

109 A
Will you please refer to your
Top Secret letter D.O.No. P.5(1)N.G.O-1 of the
14th November, on the above subject? The gold
sent through Mr. Dania has been safely received.
The question of its final disposal is still
under consideration. The Prime Minister desires
that the Yen 20,000/- which Mr. Kurthy handed
over in cash to your Embassy as part of the
I.N.A. properties be kept by you, in a safe,
until further instructions. The money is not
to be credited to the Embassy account.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

dc
(Leilanani Kaidu)

M.A. Rauf, Esq.,
Ambassador of India in Japan,
TOKYO

143 A



By Diplomatic Bag
D.O. No. F.5(1)NGO-I

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN
TOKYO

14th November 1952

Dear Miss Naidu,

Will you please refer to correspondence ending with your Top Secret telegram No. 27627 of the 12th November regarding I.N.A. properties?

2. As you must have noticed, a copy of the list of the treasure was enclosed in the bag carried by Damle. In this connection, please refer to Chettur's Top Secret D.O. letter No. F.26(14)/48, dated the 20th October 1951, to Dutt, wherein also a copy of the list was enclosed.

3. As we had reported to you in the letter quoted above, Mr. Murty had also given us Yen 20,000 in cash. I presume you would now want us to credit this amount to our account. If so, please indicate the Head of Account.

Yours sincerely,

(M.A. Rauf)

H. F. 17. XI.

NGO.

Miss Leilamani Naidu,
Deputy Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi

Sh. G.
19.11.52

110 - 114 + 115 - A

(120)

(120) 92
D.O. No. F.25/4/XGO.

108
~~TOP SECRET~~

the 15th November, 1952.

My dear Ambassador.

Will you please refer to our telegram No.27627 of the 12th November ?

2. Damle's arrival was delayed and we therefore received the case of valuables only on the 12th. We shall keep them in safe custody after weighing the packages, until it is decided what is to be done with them.

3. I would incidentally draw your attention to our telegram No.27621 of the 30th October, in which you were asked to send an authenticated list along with the goods. The list in the case bore no signature and is therefore of little use for purposes of check.

Yours sincerely,

(H)

(H. Dayal)

Dr. M.A. Rauf,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo (Japan)

Forwarded
15/11

106 - A

86 - A

(121)

(121)

93

(10)

CCB No. 6132.

Copy No. 8...

O. T. P.

TELEGRAM:

TOP SECRET.

From:
To:

Foreign, New Delhi.
Indembassy, Tokyo.

DTO NOV. 12 N11.

IMPORTANT.

97-A

No. 27627.

TOP SECRET.

For RAUF.

Your telegram No. 137 November 10th. Goods arrived November 12th.

.....

Prime Minister(4), Dy. Minister, FS(2), CS(2), JSAD, DSFEAW
and Cabinet Secretary.

'BNS' (16).
12/11/52.

K. Srinivasan
Superintendent CCB.

M. 107

108

A

94

(122)

(121)

Steel Case

K.R.

The ~~Steel Case~~ imported by Mr. *Damle*, I.C.

Jt. Secretary, to the Government of India, Ministry
of Agriculture and Food, may ^{be} passed under note-pass
system and the Ministry of External Affairs will be
paying the duty by book adjustment. The details of
the contents of *Steel Case* ~~case~~ etc. are detached herewith.

New Delhi

11/16 November 1954

Alt
o/c. (C.M. Shann)Under Secy: Ministry of
External Affairs

Government of India Overseas Communications Service. (104)

NEW DELHI

akils. 19030 x 200-8-51.

N.B.—All enquiries regarding this Telegram should be made to the Government Telegraph Deptt. accompanied by this Form.

THE FIRST LINE OF THIS TELEGRAM CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PARTICULARS IN THE ORDER NAMED. Prefix Letters and Number of Message, Office of Origin, Number of Words, Date, Time filed, and Official Instruction—if any.

RECD. AT NEW DELHI AT:- 1952 NOV 10 PM 4 46

1/7
62
11/21

Dep. No. 4264-CRT/52
Date 17/11

60

BNC 33 HONGKONGSUB 13 10 1253

FOREIGN NEWDELHI

10/11
(G)

PLANE DELAYED ARRIVING ELEVENTH NIGHT SAME
TIME ARRANGE CUSTOMS FACILITIES - DANLE

FORWARD CT IBR	INITIALS	TIME RECD 6.5/1642
----------------------	----------	--------------------------

96
98
Ministry of External Affairs.

⑦ R. 90
TOP
SECRET

I sent a note yesterday to Mr. Rajaram Rao, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance (R.D.), asking whether the I.N.A. Treasure, which Mr. Damle is bringing with him, could be exempted from customs examination and duty. This morning, Mr. A.K. Mukherje Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Finance (C.B.R), told me over the telephone that they could arrange for exemption from examination at the airport provided we signed a Bill of Entry. He added that this Ministry would later be asked to pay the customs duty. A telegram just received from Tokyo shows that Mr. Damle will not arrive this evening but tomorrow, at 5 P.M., by Pan American Airways Flight 3. I have handed over the telegrams to JS(AD) who has agreed to take necessary action in the matter.

[Signature]
10-11-52

97-A
JS(A)

(28) *D* O.T.P. (97)

TELEGRAM

TOP SECRET

CCB No. 8363/

COPY NO. 1

From....Indembassy, Tokyo.
To.....Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO.NOV. 101000.
DTR.NOV. 100900.

96 A MOST IMMEDIATE

No.137-G. TOP SECRET. Continuation of our
telegram No.136-G of 8th November DAMLE arriving Delhi
Pan American Airways Flight 3 Tuesday 0005 hours.

.....
PRIME MINISTER(4); DY MINISTER: FS(2); CS(2); DS FEAWT:
CABINET SECRETARY.

Robie
Superintendent CCB.

D(15)
10/11/52

106 A

O.T.P.

TELEGRAMTOP SECRET

From..... Indembassy, Tokyo.
To..... Foreign, New Delhi.

D.T.O. NOV. 081515
D.T.R. NOV. 081630

MOST IMMEDIATENo.136-G. TOP SECRET.

Continuation my TOP SECRET telegram No.134-G of today's date. If necessary please insure stuff worth Rs.90,000 repeat 90,000 carried in steel attache case weighing approximately 35 repeat 35 lbs as insurance NOT possible this end.

.....

PRIME MINISTER (4): DY MINISTER: FS(2): CS(2):

DSFEAWT & CAB SECY.

E.A.(15)

8/11/52.

PN Sareen
Superintendent C.C.B.

97 - A

129
99 125 92-8
AT IMMEDIATE
TOP SECRET

No. 159-D.S. (Cus)/52.
CENTRAL BOARD OF REVENUE.
New Delhi, the 10th November, 1952.

My dear Mehta,

A steel attache case containing gold ornaments and dust and broken pieces is being brought by Mr. Damle, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture from Tokyo. He is travelling by Pan American Airways flight 3, having left Tokyo on the 9th and reaching Delhi on the evening of the 10th November, 1952. The steel attache case in question and the contents thereof may be released without Customs examination under the Note & Pass procedure. It is understood from the Ministry of External Affairs that they have with them a detailed list of the articles in question giving the weights and value of each item thereof. This could form the basis for the assessment thereof when duty is adjusted afterwards.

The articles in question may be released without production of an import permit from the Reserve Bank of India.

Yours sincerely,


(A.K. Mukarji)

Shri N.L. Mehta,
Collector of Central Excise,
New Delhi.

CCB No. 8342

Copy No. 8

O.T.P.

TELEGRAM

TOP SECRET

From..... Indembassy, Tokyo.
To..... Foreign, New Delhi.

D.T.O. NOV. 081230

D.T.R. NOV. 081530

MOST IMMEDIATE

**

* by ch.

No.134-G. TOP SECRET.

From RAUF. Your Top Secret telegram No.27621 30th October. DAMLE bringing stuff and copy of list by Pan American Airways flight 3 leaving 9th reaching Delhi 10th evening. Kindly instruct Customs authorities for Customs exemption.

.....

PRIME MINISTER(4): DY MINISTER: FS(2): CS(2): DSFEAWT:
CAB SECY.

E.A.(15)

8/11/52.

27-91 + 92-A

P.N. Sareen
Superintendent C.C.B.

CCB No. 5854
Copy No. 9

O.T.P

TELEGRAM

TOP SECRET

From..... Foreign, New Delhi
To..... Indombassy, Tokyo

DTO OCT 301530

IMMEDIATE

No. 27621. TOP SECRET. For RAUF

Your Top Secret telegram 131-G of
October 27th. Please send authenticated list along
with the stuff through DAMLE.

PRIME MINISTER (4): DY MIN: FS (2): CS (2): DSFEAWT:

CAB SECY:

H. J. Simwasane
Superintendent CCB

DR.(13)
301700

88 — A

CCB No. 7998

Copy No.

O.T.P.

Telegram

TOP SECRET

From: - Indombassy, Tokyo.

To: - Foreign, New Delhi.

DTG OCT. 271500.

DTG OCT. 271630.

.....

72-A

No. 131-G. Top Secret. RAUF to LEILAMANI NAIDU.

Reference* your Top Secret* D/O F.25(6)/NGO-52 16th October.

* By ch.

Propose sending the staff in our custody with DAMLE Joint Secretary Agriculture Ministry who is returning to India on 7th November. Reference to Japanese Government NOT considered necessary and may involve delay. Japanese Government have so far evinced NO interest in the matter.

PRIME MINISTER(4); DY. MIN: FS(2); CS(2); DEFEAWT: AND

CAB, SECY.

Would like to see

pts.

Chie of Mission

SUR(15)

27.10.52.

SECRET

P. F. 28.x

1990.

Superintendent CCB.

86-A

(131)

(Encl. to Minute 73)

I.N.A. TREASURE

LIST OF GOLD ITEMS TAKEN OVER FROM
MR. RAM MURTY, ON 24TH SEPTEMBER 1951,
BY THE EMBASSY OF INDIA, TOKYO.

BUNDLE I

Package 1

Charred rings and pendants 400 grams

Package 2

Charred and broken bangles, pins, buckles, etc. 2 kilograms, 560 grams

Package 3

Charred and broken bangles, pendants, snuff box,
medals, coins and rings 325 grams.

Package 4

Charred necklace pieces, medals and rings 325 grams.

Package 5

Charred ear-rings, nose-rings, rings, mostly with stones 700 grams.

Package 6

Charred and broken bangles and anklets 1 kilogram, 700 grams.

Package 7

Charred and broken rings, noserings and pendants 825 grams.

Package 8

Charred rings and nose-rings 425 grams.

Package 9

Charred necklace, bangles, brooches and nose-rings 320 grams.

Package 10

Charred ear-rings with stones and rings 425 grams.

Package 11

Charred rings 105 grams.

Package 12

Charred rings and chain 200 grams.

Package 13

Charred rings and buttons 50 grams

Package 14

Charred ear pendants 50 grams

8.410

PTO

132

~~104~~
- 2 -

BUNDLE II

Charred gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc. 3.500

BUNDLE III

Metal, mostly base and dust 1.600

AYER'S LOT

(1) 9 pieces of gold : 300 grams

(2) ¥ 20,000/-

104
132+

133
195
72
D.O. No. X.25/3/MO-52

TOP SECRET

the 16th October, 1952.

My dear Rauf,

Will you please refer to the correspondence resting with Chettur's d.o. letter No. F.26(14)/48, dated the 20th October 1951, about the INA properties taken over by our Mission in Tokyo from Ram Murthy?

2. The Prime Minister wishes to know whether the treasure or its equivalent in money can now be brought over to India. As our Treaty of Peace with Japan has come into force, this should be a comparatively easy matter.

3. We would be grateful if you would kindly make the necessary inquiries and cable your reply.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Leilamani Naidu)

M.A. Rauf, Esq.,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo,
Japan.

72 - A

(134) 106
No.D/S/11951



D.3285-MS/15 (69-A)
IMMEDIATE.
PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

4th October, 1952.
6/10
P.P. 72.x / 740.

DS(FEA)
How are you? about 10.5?
You are still in the
Ambassador.
6/10
My dear Ratan,

Certain items of INA treasure consisting of gold and other valuables were taken over by the Indian Liaison Mission, Tokyo, some time ago and were in deposit with them. Prime Minister would like to know what is the position about this treasure and what are its contents. He would also like to know whether these articles themselves or whether their equivalent in money can now be brought over to India. Some time ago, there was some difficulty about transferring the treasure from Japan to India. I shall be obliged if a note on this subject is sent to me, at an early date, for the Prime Minister's information.

Yours sincerely,

B.N. Kaul
(B.N. Kaul)

Shri R.K. Nehru, I.C.S.,
Foreign Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

his 70 & 71 + 5th 72-A
Hm. 73

135
107
D. 25/3/1952 (6011)

**QUESTION FOR THE PARLIAMENT OF INDIA.
HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE.**

Starred D. No. **5277.**

Notice was received on the **16-7-52.**

Notice of admission to be sent out on the **23-7-52.**

Ministry to which the day has been allotted

PRIME MINISTER'S SECTT.

The question will, if admitted, be put down
for the meeting on the:—

29-7-52.

*This question has been disallowed.
No further action. H.T.S.
26.7.52*

N.G.O.

* **SHRI R.S. TIWARI : Will the Prime Minister be pleased
SHRI SNATAK :**

to state :

(a) whether it has been fully verified that Shri Subhas Chandra
Bose is dead; and

(b) if so, why Government have not expressed their sympathy
in regard to him in view of his being a national worker?

*About (a) please furnish full information.
In regard to (b) PM himself will draft
something.*

M. Mahan
18/7/52

*Miss Leila Maria Naidu
S.A. Ministry*

PM's Sectt. Y/c. No. D/S 8/45-2 18.7.52

Ministry of External Affairs.

P. S. 38.

N.G.O.

Private papers.

H.T.S.
18.7.52

GIPD-DME-S-402 PS-8-8-51-30,000.

'CLB'.

Original notice received in Hindi.

136

136

108

66-A

67-A

11-5

m-4-A

137 109
D. No. 209/KR/62
PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT, INDIA - (63-A)

No. ~~209~~ 47(157)-52/PMS.

New Delhi, the 17th June 1952.

The undermentioned paper is forwarded to the Ministry of External Affairs (N.G.O. Branch), for necessary action.

M. L. Bazaz

(M. L. Bazaz)

Assistant Private Secretary.

63-1 Letter dated 11-6-1952 from Shri S.A. Ayer, Bombay.

66-A

138

138

110

63- B involved in

Set- 5

m. h. A

12

139

14

D. 1001-NGO/5

62A



TOP SECRET

PORT-OF-SPAIN

TRINIDAD.

D.O.No. 30-COM/52.

4th March, 1952.

Dear Mr. Sathe,

749A

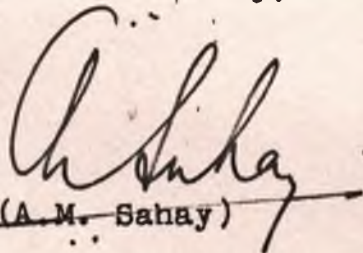
Q. 521

Will you please refer to your D.O.No. 25/4/NGO, dated the 1st February, 1952, in connection with my note on the late Netaji Subash Chandra Bose? Please note that the report in question has already been sent to Shri Dutt from whom the first request came. I have already received an acknowledgment of the same from Shri Dutt, vide his D.O. No. 107/52-S, dated the 30th January, 1952.

A
29/3

SIA

Yours sincerely,


(A. M. Sahay)

Shri R.D. Sathe, I.F.S.,
Ministry of E.A.,
New Delhi.



50 M. 82- CM

Serial

807-NGO/SL

140
112
(61A

CHIEF MINISTER

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Calcutta.

The 10th March, 1952.

112

My dear *Jawahar*

Kindly refer to your letter regarding the
ashes of Subhas Bose.

I referred the matter to Sri Asoke Nath
Bose, the eldest son of late Sarat Chandra Bose. He
evidently consulted his people and telephoned to me
yesterday to say that at the present moment they do not
desire to move in the matter, and they also wish that
the matter be not pursued at the present moment. So
I think there is nothing else to be done for the
moment.

57A
Yours *aff*
B. Das

Jehun 14/3
Sec 2B
Stamp
DSR
Hon'ble Shri Jawaharlal Nehru,
Prime Minister,
New Delhi.

14/13
15/3
NGO
DS (PEA) *17.3.*

N. 90.

113
March 5, 1952.

(60-A)

No. 53-8 - N.G.O./5-2

My dear Dr Roy,

Will you kindly refer to H.P.M.'s
D.O. letter to you of March the 1st about
Ayer's report on Shri Subhas Bose's death?
As desired by H.P.M., I enclose a copy of
the resume of the report which was placed
on the table of the House on March the
5th, when H.P.M. gave an oral answer to a
question in Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

(R. K. Nehru).

Encl:

The Hon'ble
Dr. B. C. Roy,
Chief Minister of West Bengal,
Calcutta.

142

114

(5-7-A)

Camp: Chittaranjan,
March 1, 1952.

My dear Bidhan,

I spoke to you about Subhas Bose's ashes in Tokyo.

One Ayer was Publicity Adviser to Subhas Bose in Malaya during the INA period. He was with him till Subhas left for Japan. In the course of this journey, it has been alleged that Subhas died owing to an air-crash.

Ayer went to Japan in May last to make further inquiries about this matter. He has presented us with a full report containing the evidence of Indians and Japanese, some of them eye-witnesses of the crash. He comes to the firm conclusion that there is not a shadow of a doubt that Subhas Bose died in Formosa in an aircraft accident and that his ashes were taken to Tokyo and are now kept in a temple there.

In answer to a question in Parliament I am going to place Ayer's report on the table of the House. I have no reason to doubt the correctness of this report and I think I must accept the final conclusion also.

The question arises as to what we are to do with the urn containing the ashes which is at present kept in a Japanese temple. We have asked our representative in Tokyo to take formal charge of this, but to leave it in the temple until further directions are given. I should like you to get in touch with Subhas Bose's family and find out from them what they would wish done in this matter. We can then take counsel together and decide.

*A copy of Ayer's report will be sent to you
from Delhi.*

Sd/- Jawaharlal Nehru.

The Hon'ble
Dr B.C. Roy,
Chief Minister of West Bengal,
Camp: Chittaranjan.

60A, 61A

143

143

145

56 - A level
and 145 m. 11.11.

Question 334.

Shri Kamath: In view of the fact that the House is deeply interested in this matter, may I request the Prime Minister to read not the whole of the resume but at least Habib's version on page 2 and 3?

Mr. Speaker: I do not see why the time of the question should be taken by such reading. The resume is already there and non-Members may refer to it.

Mr. Kamath: So that separate questions may be put and answered.

Mr. Speaker: He has got a copy of the statement.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I, Sir, read the last two lines? The report is a detailed version of the enquiry. It also contains a certain version given by Japanese officers who told him. (Mr. Ayer). These are details but the final conclusion I would read from the report.

"In conclusion I would repeat that I have not the faintest doubt in my mind that the ashes that are enshrined in the Renkeji temple in Tokyo are Netaji's."

Mr. Kamath: Did Mr. Ayer in May last visit only Tokyo or Taihoku, Saigon and other places?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have to speak from memory. I do not think that he went to Taiwan or Formosa. I cannot say about any other places either.

Mr. Kamath: The report with me says that at Taihoku after the.....

Mr. Speaker: I do not see the utility of putting these questions. The report is by an officer and it is before the House and all that the hon. Prime Minister is doing is to read the report to the House. How can he answer questions about the accuracy or otherwise of the report?

Mr. Kamath: Is it not a fact that on several occasions in this House the former Home Minister, Sardar Patel and Dr. Keshkar stated that they had no irrefutable evidence or proof of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and if so may I know whether this is taken as the last word on the matter?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: This is the fullest and latest account that we have had. Whether it is the last word or further information may come later I cannot say but it does seem now that it is a fairly convincing account.

Mr. Kamath: Now that Government is satisfied that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is definitely no more, is there any proposal before Government to erect a suitable memorial to him in Red Fort?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid I must disallow the question. It is a suggestion for action. Next question.

(145)
D.O.No. 107 /52-S

SECRET

(57-1)
January 30, 1952.

Dear Mr. Sahay, 50 A

Thank you for your demi-official letter No. 13-COM/52 of the 17th January. Your note on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's activities during the last few months of his life is very interesting, and we are keeping it on record. Incidentally, you may be interested to hear that K.A. Ayer has recently published a book on Netaji. When I saw the book in manuscript, my impression was that the material could have been arranged in a more effective manner and that there was considerable room for improvement of the language and style. I have not seen many reviews of this new book. It is a matter of great pity that Netaji Bose's life has not yet received adequate treatment at the hands of our writers and historians. I have no doubt, however, that the future historians will give him the rightful place in the national struggle for independence.

Yours sincerely,

Issued
30/1
Shri A.M. Sahay,
Commissioner for the Govt.
of India in B.W. Indies,
Port-of-Spain,
Trinidad.

Sd.
S. Dutt

146

118

Krishna Kumar.

50 - A hand

at 215

m-18-17

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

D.O. Letter
Draft ~~MEMORANDUM~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

File No.

Serial No.

1. Date of despatch

No. 25/4/NGO

Dated

1st Feb. 1951.

2. List of enclosures

Dear Mr. Sahay,

Will you please refer to Mr. Dutt's
D.O.No.758/51-S dated the 1st November, 1951
and Miss Leilamani Naidu's reminder No.

25/4/NGO dated the 21st December, 1951, about
the late Subash Chandra Bose?

We shall be grateful for a very early
reply.

Yours sincerely,

(R.D.Sathe)

Shri A. M. Sahay,
Commissioner for the Govt. of India,
Port-of-Spain,
TRINIDAD, B.W.I.

Issued.
1/2

58A
62A

108

125

(47-A

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

File No.

Serial No.

Letter

TCP SECRET

Draft Memorandum

~~Telegram~~

1. Date of despatch.

2. List of enclosures.

No. 25/4/NGO

Dated 21-12-57

Dear Mr. Sahay,

Will you please refer to
Mr. Dutt's D.O. letter No. 758/51-S
dated the 1st November, 1951 about
the late Subash Chandra Bose?

We shall be grateful for an
early reply.

Yours sincerely,

(Leilamani Naidu)

Shri A. M. Sahay,
Commissioner for the Govt. of India,
Port-of-Spain,
TRINIDAD, B.W.I.

46 A
2/12

50A

149

~~121~~

66-A k6 ul-
and h6-er
m - 11 A

150

substantial quantity of gold ornaments and precious stones, but that he was allowed to carry only two suit-cases on the ill-fated flight. These two suit-cases must have carried very much more than has now been handed over to us, and even if allowances are made for the loss of the part of the treasure when the plane crashed, it seems obvious that what was retrieved was substantially very much more than has now been in our possession. What is still more important is that the bulk of the treasure was left in Saigon and it is significant from information that is available that on the 26th January, 1945, Netaji's collection weighed more than himself. In this context you will notice that Aiyer came to Tokyo subsequently from Saigon and that his statement at that time was that "the gold is intact as I have brought it from Saigon, while cash is the balance after changing Piastras into Yens and meeting my expenses during my stay in Japan since August 22nd 1945". There is a party here who has seen the boxes in Aiyer's room and who was also told by Aiyer of the contents of these few boxes. What happened to these boxes subsequently is a mystery as all that we have got from Aiyer is 300 grams of gold, and about 200 rupees gold worth of cash. You will, no doubt, draw your own conclusion from all this, but to me it would appear as if Aiyer, apprehensive of the early conclusion of the Peace Treaty, came to Tokyo to divide the loot and to salve his and Murthy's conscience by the handing over of a small quantity to Government, in the hope that by doing so he would also succeed in drawing a red herring across the trail."

Suspicion regarding the improper disposal of the treasure is thickened by the comparative affluence in 1946 of Mr. Ramamurthy when all other Indian nationals in Tokyo were suffering the greatest hardships. Another fact which suggests that the treasures were improperly disposed of is a sudden blossoming out into an Oriental curio expert of Col. Figges, the Military Attache of the British Mission in Tokyo, and the reported invitation extended by the Colonel to Ramamurthy to settle down in U.K.

(R.D. Sathe)
1.XI.51.

gh
5/11/51
/

P. h. has seen this note. This
may be placed in the relevant file.

FS

WS(CPK) 15/11

Wm
14.4.51

(15)

INA TREASURES AND THEIR HANDLING BY MESSRS
IYER & RAMAMURTHI.

Considerable quantities of gold and treasures were given to the late Shri Subhas Chandra Bose by Indians in the Far East as a part of their war effort. Shri Subhas Chandra carried a part of these "treasures" with him on his ill-fated flight from Saigon to Tokyo; the remaining "treasures" were left in Saigon.

According to photo-static copies of documents the following treasures are reported to have eventually reached Tokyo.

A. Recovered from plane crash	Kg.	gms.
(1) Comparatively pure gold in two wooden boxes and a paper wrapper (weight include weight of gold and wooden box)	7	- 900
(2) One packet gold mixed with molten metal iron etc. (weight includes weight of gold, metal iron etc. and paper wrapper.	3	- 100
B. Brought by S.A. Iyer from Saigon	-	- 300
	11	- 300

In addition to the above Mr. S.A. Iyer handed over ₹.20,000/-.

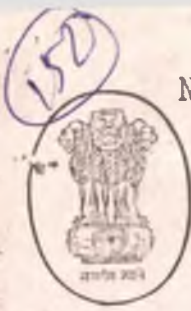
The above treasures were handed over in Tokyo to one Mr. Ramamurthy. Mr. Ramamurthy was on several occasions questioned by representatives of the Government of India regarding these treasures but he denied the existence of the treasure and it was only recently that he admitted that the treasures were in his possession.

(H.B.)

These treasures have now been taken over by the Indian Liaison Mission, Tokyo, and the list of treasures recovered by them is at slip ~~ix~~. The weight of treasures now recovered is considerably more than the weight of treasures that are reported to have been handed over to Mr. Ramamurthy. Further the ₹.20,000/- notes now handed over to Indian Liaison Mission are of current use. (The notes that were handed over to Mr. Ramamurthy in 1945 must have been those which are no longer current in Japan).

Mr. Iyer recently visited Japan with the ostensible purpose of investigating the present position in regard to the treasures. Mr. Iyer's activities in Japan have been rather suspicious and Mr. Chettur's views regarding this are as follows:-

"It appears that Hata'i had with him in Saigon



123 4010-14
No.F.26(14)/48

TOP SECRET

(40-A)

INDIAN LIAISON MISSION

TOKYO

20th October, 1951.

My dear Dutt,

32A

Please refer to my Top Secret telegram No.74-GS dated the 25th September intimating to you that whatever INA properties Ram Murty handed over to us were in our possession.

4B 2. As arranged with Ram Murthy, Trivedi accompanied by the Office Registrar went to the former's house on the 24th September, and took possession of the various packages after opening and weighing them with our own scale in the presence of Ram Murty and his wife. These packages were in three cloth bundles. In addition there was a paper package containing gold pieces and and ¥ 20,000 in cash handed over by Iyer to Ram Murty. A copy of the detailed list with weights shown against each package is enclosed.

7A 3. Trivedi also signed a receipt on the photostat copies of Habibur Rehman's and Iyer's letters to Murty dated the 15th November, 1945, copies of which I had sent to Chakravarty with my Top Secret D.O. letter No.F.5(25)/51 of 6th June 1951.

4. If you compare the lists with the information given in the photostat copies, you will find that there was no wooden box and that the "treasure" was apparently divided into a larger number of paper packages and cloth bundles. Despite the absence of the wooden box, however, the weight is more than that shown in Habib-ur-Rehman's letter, which also does not mention another bundle mostly containing dust and some base metal. Ram Murty told Trivedi that the "treasure" was opened and weighed once again when Iyer came here last. Iyer has jotted down the weights in his handwriting and these slips of paper are with the bundles. Murty also stated that the third bundle was not mentioned in Habib-ur-Rehman's letter as it was practically worthless.

5. Two other points worth noting in this connection are that the twenty thousand Yen handed over by Ram Murty are in current notes of ¥ 1,000 each, and not in notes which were current in 1945 nor in their equivalent in actual value on account of changes in Yen currency values. Secondly, the gold lumps given by Iyer, which are obviously pieces from melted ornaments are bright and completely untarnished. You will no doubt consult experts whether gold will remain entirely untarnished after nearly six years.

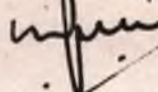
6. Incidentally, when Trivedi first called Ram Murty in August 1951 after the receipt of your instructions to take over the "treasure", he admitted that the treasure was in his possession but that he had been denying its existence so far "in view of the risks involved in admitting it", meaning robbery or appropriation by the Occupation or Japanese authorities. As a matter of fact Murty has all along denied the existence of the "treasure" and even Chakravarty questioned him when he was the Head of the Mission (and even though there is no specific noting on our file, it would appear that Rama Rao or Bahadur Singh must also have questioned him.)

153

-: 2 :-

7. I may add that we have since been able to secure on a personal and private basis a confidential report from the Japanese Foreign Ministry on the question of Netaji's "treasure". It appears that Netaji had with him in Saigon substantial quantities of gold ornaments and precious stones, but that he was allowed to carry only two suitcases on the ill-fated flight. These two suitcases must have carried very much more than has now been handed over to us and even if allowances are made for the loss of part of the "treasure" when the 'plane crashed, it seems obvious that what was retrieved was substantially very much more than is now in our possession. What is still more important is that the bulk of the treasure was left in Saigon and it is significant from information that is available that on the 26th January 1945, Netaji's collection weighed more than himself. In this context you will notice that Iyer came to Tokyo subsequently from Saigon and that his statement at that time was that : "The gold is intact as I brought it from Saigon. The cash is balance after changing Piastre into Yen and meeting my expenses during my stay in Japan since August 22, 1945". There is a party here who has seen the boxes in Iyer's room and who was also told by Iyer of the contents of these two boxes. What happened to these boxes subsequently is a mystery as all that we have now got from Iyer is 300 grams of gold and about 260 Rupees worth of cash. You will, no doubt, draw your own conclusions from all this, but to me it would appear uncommonly as if Iyer, apprehensive of the early conclusion of the Peace Treaty, came to Tokyo to divide the loot and to salve his and Murty's conscience by the handing over of a small quantity to the Government in the hope that by doing so he would also succeed in drawing a red herring across the trail. How far he has been successful, time will show.

Yours sincerely,



(K.K. CHETTUR)

S. Dutt, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Commonwealth Relations,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

Encl: 1

154

BUNDLE I.

40B

Package 1

Charred rings and pendants 400 grams

Package 2

Charred and broken bangles, pins, buckles, etc. 2 kilograms, 560

Package 3

Charred and broken bangles, pendants, snuff box, medals, coins and rings 325 grams.

Package 4

Charred necklace pieces, medals and rings 325 grams.

Package 5

Charred ear-rings, nose-rings, rings, mostly with stones 700 grams.

Package 6

Charred and broken bangles and anklets 1 kilogram, 700

Package 7

Charred and broken rings, noserings and pendants 825 grams.

Package 8

Charred rings and nose-rings 425 grams.

Package 9

Charred necklace, bangles, brooches and nose-rings 320 grams.

Package 10

Charred ear-rings with stones and rings 425 grams.

Package 11

Charred rings 105 grams.

Package 12

Charred rings and chain 200 grams.

Package 13

Charred rings and buttons 50 grams

Package 14

Charred ear pendants 50 grams

BUNDLE II

Charred gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc. 3.500

BUNDLE III

Metal, mostly base and dust 1.600

AYER's LOT

(1) 9 pieces of gold : 300 grams

(2) 100.000



D.O.No. F. 26 (14) / 48

TOP SECRET
INDIAN LIAISON MISSION

TOKYO
1st October 1951.

My dear Dutt,

Will you please refer to your D.O. letter No. 25/4/NGO dated the 24th September 1951?

2. I am afraid there is some misunderstanding here. In none of my earlier letters did I say that the ashes presumed to be those of the late Netaji are at present "in the charge of Mr. Ramamurti". As a matter of fact, these ashes are not in the custody of Ramamurti but under the control of the priest of the Renkoji Temple, who does not recognise the right of Ramamurti to control its disposal. It may interest you to know that quite some months ago we had arranged with the Japanese Foreign Office here that these ashes would be left undisturbed and under our control in the temple until further instructions were received from this Mission. The priest himself is also fully aware of this decision, which was explained to him in person.

3. You will of course let me know in due course the decision of the Government of India regarding its final disposal.

4. The revival of interest in the ashes and Netaji's treasure raises some misgivings in my mind, a subject which I shall refer to in greater detail when I write to you regarding the taking over of the treasure from Ramamurti.

Yours sincerely,

(K.K. Chettur)

S. Dutt, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Commonwealth Relations,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

DE F.E.A. may see. We will

wait for the further come here

- has promised by K.K. Chettur. To

15.10.51.

DE F.E.A.

M 38, 40A

Lowell

Who has first
used this
phrase? These
these source
generation.

NGO.

27

156

36 - A L- U

M-H-N

152

128

33-A } total vol - cal vol
(cal vol - vol) m.l.h.A.

150

129

32

1079
FLA

Arant promis
communicator

CCB No. 7268
Copy No. 8

25.9

190.

OTP

TELEGRAM

TOP SECRET

From : India, Tokyo.
To : Foreign, New Delhi.

DTG SEPT 251130
DTR SEPT 251040

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 74GS10 TOP SECRET.

DWTT from CHETTUR.

* by ch.

Your 30588. Whatever INA properties have been
handed over by RAMAMURTI are now in our possession.
Details follow.

PM(3): DY MIN: SG: FS(2): SECY CR(2): SS: CAB SECY.

JR(17)
25/9

PN Sareen
Superintendent CCB

40A

159

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

TOP SECRET

13.1

D.O. Letter
Draft Memorandum
Telegram

File No.

Serial No.

1. Date of despatch

2. List of enclosures

No. 25/4/NOG Dated 24-9-51.

Dear Chettur,

Will you please refer to Chakravarty's D.O. letter to you, No. 25/4/NOG of the 18th July, about the Ashes of the late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose?

As reported by you, the ashes presumed to be those of the late Netaji are at present in the charge of Mr. Yamamurti, ex-President of the I.I.L., and are enshrined in the Renkaji Temple at Morinouchi, Suginani-ku, Tokyo, under the supervision of the high priest. The Prime Minister desires that you immediately take over charge of these ashes from Yamamurti, without publicity, leaving them undisturbed in the temple until further instructions. This transfer of custodianship will be without prejudice to the final decision, which will be taken later, as to whether the ashes are genuinely those of the late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S. DUTT).

K. K. Chettur, Esq.,
Head of the Indian Liaison Mission,
Tokyo.

Issued
by
24/9

for decision
Gad-

27A

160 160 128/131
O.T.P.

CCB No. 5280
Copy No. 7

TELEGRAM

TOP SECRET

From..... Foreign, New Delhi
To..... India, Tokyo

DTG SEPT 221020

IMMEDIATE

No. 30588 TOP SECRET.

CHETTUR from DUTT.

Reference our correspondence from 23rd June to 18th July about INA PROPERTIES. Prime Minister desires that you should, without further delay, take over from RAMAMURTI all INA treasure in his possession and keep it in the Mission until further instructions. Please inform action taken and quantity and nature of treasure.

PRIME MINISTER (3); DY MINISTER: SG: FS (2): SECY CR (2):

SS: CAB SECY:

R. H. H. H. H. H.
Superintendent CCB

DR. (17)
23/9/51

SUMMARY.

Subject: Netaji Subas Chandra Bose.

Five questions were asked in Parliament regarding Netaji Subas Chandra Bose in 1946. In answer to Mr. Mangal Singh's question on Netaji's death, the Government made an authoritative statement that Netaji succumbed to injuries sustained in a plane crash at Taihoku airfield on 18 August 1945. Subsequently however, the Government on 30 October 1946 stated, in reply to another question by Mr. Mangal Singh, that they are not in a position to make any authoritative statement on whether Netaji is dead or alive and that they have not made any enquiries in the matter. This apparent contradiction is presumably due to the fact that the former reply was given by the foreign controlled India Government and the latter by Shri Patel after the establishment of the Interim Government.

2. The Hindustan Times published on 12 October 1946 a statement by the Hon'ble the Prime Minister that there was not the slightest justification for the belief that Netaji was alive. This statement also referred to Col. Habibur Rahman's letters to the H.P.M. wherein he had assured the fact of Netaji's death on August 18, 1945. Col. Rahman was himself involved in the plane crash and he had his bed in the hospital side by side with that of Netaji.

3. Capt. Yoshimi Taneyoshi, a medical officer of the Japanese Imperial Army, has, in a long statement, given the details of Netaji's death.

4. ✓ In 1951, two questions were asked in the Parliament in this regard. One referred to the communication received from Major-General J.K. Bhonsle, Chairman, I.N.A. Advisory Committee,

not up
Slip U

(Home Ministry's file)

Slip F.

(Home Min's file)

Slip D.

(H.P.M. file)

Slip K

(H.P.M. file)

Syn. (6) & (16)

✓ Syn (1)

162
162
wherein was reported that the ashes of Netaji were lying in a temple in Tokyo. The Indian Liaison Mission, Tokyo, were asked to verify this report. The Mission carried out possible investigations and reported that Mr. Ramamurti had confirmed that Aiyer and himself received ashes of Netaji in September 1945 and entrusted them to the custody of Renkoji Temple in Tokyo. The first secretary visited the temple and saw the casket. The Mission had reported that further verification was obviously impossible. They have stated further that according to understanding at time of deposit of ashes, the temple authorities ~~were~~ prepared to despatch the ashes to India, provided arrangements are made for receiving the casket with ceremonies and honour compatible with the status of Netaji.

Sno(13)

163 173
I. TREASURE: Instructions to take over the gold and Jewellery from Mr. Murti was sent 3 times to Mr. Chettur.

- (a) PM's telegram of June 23rd --P.9A
- (b) Secy.CR's letter, 25th June --P.11A
- (c) Secy.CR's letter, 12th July --P.19A
- (d) Secy.CR's letter, 18th July --P.21A

II. ASHES: (a) Secy.CR's letter of 18th July --P.21A

Qt. From various instructions we think it desirable not to get mixed up with Netaji's Ashes at least for the present. The Ashes may remain where they are.

(b) Secy.CR's note of 15-9-51

Qt. The Prime Minister suggested our writing to Mr. Chettur to take charge of the Ashes from Mr. Murti but not to remove the Ashes to the Mission.

164

134

Letter dated 12.9.51
from Ministry for Natural
Resources and Scientific Research
(Shri Brahase) addressed to
Prime Minister with enclosures
(23-A, 23-B, 23-C) (No. 3591/NSO/51)

Taken out and given
to D.S. (EA) on 7.8.71
in connection with the
Commissioning.

165
D.O. No.F.5(25)/51.

2625-NGO/51

TOP SECRET (22A)

INDIAN LIAISON MISSION

TOKYO

20th July 1951.



My dear Chakravarty,

✓
11-A
✓
13A
✓
18-A
Your top secret D.O. letters No. 25/4/NGO dated the 25th June and 2nd July 1951 have obviously crossed mine No.F.5(25)/51 of the 29th June. I shall therefore await your further instructions before proceeding in the matter, as the success of any investigations at this stage appears to depend largely on the extent of Ayer's cooperation with us, and the ball for the present is in your court.

Yours sincerely,

(K.K.Chettur)

B.N.Chakravarty, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs,
Tak New Delhi.

186
TOP SECRET

D.O.No. 2574/NGO (21-A)
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi,
18th July 1951.

17/4
My dear Chettur, 19A

This is in continuation of my letter No. F.25/4/NGO, dated the 12th July, 1951. The Prime Minister came back yesterday and I mentioned the matter to him. From various considerations we think it desirable not to get mixed up with Netaji's Ashes at least for the present. The Ashes may remain where they are. You should, however, try to take possession of the gold from Ramamurti.

As regards the holding of an enquiry the position is as I stated in my letter dated the 12th July and the Prime Minister does not want any open investigations which might prove embarrassing to the Mission and to the Government. If any confidential enquiries are possible without causing any embarrassment to the Mission you will no doubt make such enquiries. Please let us know when you are able to take possession of the gold. The question of its disposal may then be considered.

Yours sincerely,

9/8/51
(B.N.Chakravarty)

K.K.Chettur, Esq.,
Head of Indian Liaison Mission,
Tokyo.

30A, 31A

167
127
SECRET
D.O.No. F.25/4/NGO (19-A)
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi,
12th July, 1951.

My dear Chettur,

X
76-B
I enclose a copy of a letter written to Bhat, Chief Secretary of the Bombay Government, by Ayer on his return to India. From your letters I got the impression that Ayer more or less avoided meeting you after the 5th June with the result that you could not communicate the contents of our telegram to him. He seems to suggest that the initiative was with you and that you did not send him any message until the day he left Tokyo. That, however, is probably to be expected.

[The Prime Minister is away and I cannot at the moment tell you anything about the ashes, but meanwhile you may ask Ramamurti to make over the gold to you. 18A

✓
8A
I received your d.o. letter No.F.5(25)/51, dated the 29th June 1951 duly. As I had already told you in one of my previous letters there was nothing wrong in your interpretation of the Government's attitude. That was my own interpretation too. But when I talked the matter over with the Prime Minister he definitely said that that is not the Government's attitude. Apparently Harish Dayal's letter was issued without the knowledge of the Prime Minister. In your letter dated the 11th June 1951 you stated that you had heard the most scandalous reports about the Ayer-Ramamurti link and that you had no reason whatsoever to doubt their authenticity, but that in view of the lack of interest evinced by Government in this matter in the past you have refrained from pursuing it. We therefore informed you that Government are greatly interested in recovering all gold and other forms of treasure and suggested that you might pursue the matter. If as you now say that it is too late to undertake a treasure hunt we would certainly not press you to do so, particularly if it means that your "investigations may involve a degree of publicity which might well prove embarrassing not only to the Mission but also to the Government of India". I myself feel that the guilty persons should be exposed. If that cannot be done by confidential enquiries without causing any embarrassment to the Mission I suppose we will have to give up the idea altogether. I have not been able to show your latest letter to the Prime Minister. When he comes back from Bangalore I will mention the case again to him and obtain his orders as to whether he would like the matter to be investigated further. I will let you know his decision in due course.

Yours sincerely,

7-12/7
(B.N.Chakravarty)

1602
127
K.K.Chettur, Esq.,
Head of Indian Liaison Mission,
Tokyo.

BT
177
21A



INDIAN LIAISON MISSION

TOKYO

29th June 1951.

My dear Chakravarty,

Will you please refer to the Ministry's cable No. PRIMIN-21557 dated the 23rd (received 25th) June 1951, which has crossed my top secret D.O. of the 22nd?

2. My interpretation -- which I am now told is wrong -- of Government's attitude towards this matter was based on the Ministry's D.O.No.D.9593-FEA/47 dated the 29/30th December 1947, to which incidentally I invited your attention when I reopened the case in my D.O. of the 21st May 1951 regarding SCAP clearance for Ayer's contemplated visit to this country. To the Mission's request as early as in December 1947 for instructions of Government on the question of the alleged misappropriation of the Netaji collections by Ramamurti, the Ministry's reply was: "In any event, the Govt. of India can hardly claim the assets of the Indian Independence League as its own and this is therefore a matter in which we cannot proceed officially. It is for the accusers of Ramamurti themselves to take such action as they are able".

3. It seems to me too late now to undertake a treasure-hunt on the scale envisaged by you -- for one thing, all the treasure, if it existed, save the two boxes now promised by Ayer, which are I understand in Ramamurti's possession now, must have long ago been converted into hard cash, commodities and landed property. The proceeds must also have been distributed between the parties concerned, and as I observed before, this would appear in some measure to be borne out by Ramamurti's comparative affluence in 1946, Capt. Thairatatte's farming venture in Sendai and Col. Figgess' blossoming out into an Oriental curio expert and a collector of objet d'art. There are others also whose names have been mentioned, though the nature of their participation in this affair still remains to be revealed. The fact however that Ayer refused to see his old Indian Independence League friends, other than Ramamurti, during his recent visit to Tokyo and that he slipped out of Tokyo without calling upon me would appear to show a degree of complicity in the whole affair well worth examining. This I shall do if you agree, though I would also add that the scent is now stone-cold and that many red herrings have been drawn across the trail. You are also aware of the agitation amongst the local Indian community here and that I have had quite a number of promises from many Indians, who have been here since the war, of signed statements setting forth their knowledge of what transpired during this period. It is also probably within your knowledge that certain Japanese informants, who were willing to offer the Mission concrete and conclusive evidence in 1948 with regard to the disappearance of the Netaji collections, were prevented from doing so by interested parties.

4. I am perfectly clear however that any enquiry now will stir up a lot of mud which I would rather avoid, since the principal collaborators are well beyond reach and all that the enquiry would do would be to secure for us a measure of publicity which I for one would most definitely like to avoid. And it seems to me that Government also cannot avoid some measure of responsibility for evading the issue in 1947 -- indeed the feeling here among local Indians was and is that the Government of India displayed an apathy and indifference to the manner of Subhas Chandra Bose's death and the disposal of his collections, which appeared to them to be little short of callous. Ayer is no doubt fully aware of all this -- this

169
- 2 - 139
is borne out by his clever observation to me that Government would be well advised to let sleeping dogs lie as election time was coming on and that it would hardly do to stir up the whole question of Netaji's death, the manner of his death and the disposal of his collections, which would appear to indicate, at any rate on his part, a very keen interest in letting this matter fade into oblivion.

5. All that we can salvage out of this business therefore would appear to be the two boxes, and as Ayer is now in India I suggest that he be asked to arrange for their being handed over to the Mission. It is interesting, as you observe, that both Ramamurti and Ayer should now admit the existence of this gold when they had originally denied all knowledge of any gold or jewellery -- and particularly when the photostat copies revealed their existence as far back as 1945.

6. I may be doing Ayer an injustice, but I am not sure that he is not a party to the misappropriation. Allegations have also been made here of his misappropriation of the deposits in the Azad Hind Bank in Rangoon, of which he was I understand the Managing Director. It is also stated by an Indian resident here that when he called upon Ayer soon after his arrival in Japan in 1945, his attention was drawn by Ayer himself to two big suitcases containing the personal effects of the late Subhas Chandra Bose, though what transpired later to these boxes has not been revealed. We should I think in this connection have on record an affidavit from Ayer with regard to his knowledge of these matters and I trust that the necessary steps to this end will be taken by you.

7. It would be also interesting in this connection if an affidavit could be secured from Col. Rahman, who is now in Pakistan, so that the two individuals who are known to have seen and/or handled the Netaji collections last may be on record, as it may throw considerable light on the amounts that were saved from the wreck. My own feeling is that Ayer's recent visit to Japan was not for a holiday but for the final disposition of the property, as a peace treaty was due very shortly and it was likely that the Japanese Government themselves might set afoot some enquiry as to the disposition of the treasure, as their good name also has been involved in this matter.

8. You may be interested to know in this connection that the Murti brothers are reported to be seriously contemplating quitting Japan and settling down either in the U.K. or in the U.S.A. -- probably the former and that Col. Figgess, Assistant Military Adviser to the British Embassy here has promised them every assistance if they propose to go to the U.K. It is not also without interest to mention that these ill-gotten gains have brought little happiness to the Murti family, save perhaps their Japanese wives in whose names I gather their property in Japan has been registered. The elder Murti (Ramamurti), though he owns a fine shop on the Ginza, perpetually wears a most harassed look. His asthmatic complaint, in spite of all the latest drugs that modern medicine can supply and his money can buy, have brought him little or no relief. What is even more tragic is that his younger brother (Jayamurti), who suffers from tuberculosis, has I understand had three of his ribs removed and has become practically a permanent invalid.

Yours sincerely,

(K.K.Chettur)

B.N.Chakravarty, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Commonwealth Relations,
Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

120
100
140
(17-A)
SECRET

D.O.No.D.939-N90/51

Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi,
9th July, 1951.

My dear Bhat,

16A
Thank you very much for your
Secret d.o.letter No.CS 287, dated the
7th July, 1951 enclosing Ayer's letter
of 2nd July. I propose to show the
letter to the Prime Minister on his
return from Bangalore ^{trip} on further
action.

Yours sincerely,

NG Br
18/7
v BCh
(B.N.Chakravarty)

M.D.Bhat, Esq., I.C.S.,
Chief Secretary,
Government of Bombay,
BOMBAY.

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SECRET

Acad. P. 0697 D. 2350-80/57 (16-A)

D.O. No. C.S. 287.
Political & Services Department,
Secretariat, Bombay.
7th July 1951.

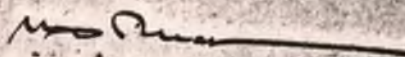
My dear Chakravarty,

15A
Please refer to your demi-official letter No. 25/4/NGO, dated the 4th July 1951.

14
14-A
16-B
I am sorry that through oversight on the part of the dispatcher Shri S.A. Ayer's letter was not enclosed with my letter of 2nd July 1951.

I am now enclosing it herewith.

Yours sincerely,


(M. D. Bhat)

Shri B.N. Chakravarty, ICS,
Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

17-A

(122) 142
X
(16-B)
SECRET.

S. A. Ayer,
20, Nagin Mahal,
Churchgate, BOMBAY
30.6.51
2.7.51

Dear Shri Bhatn

With reference to your D.O. No. C.S./229 of 11th May 1951, I arrived in Tokyo on 24th May and after a stay of 18 days there, returned to Bombay on 13th June. The next day I called on you at the Secretariat and gave you a brief oral report.

During my brief stay in Tokyo, I called at the Indian Liaison Mission and met His Excellency K.K. Chettur, Chief of the Mission, on three days, namely, May 29, May 30 and June 5.

7-B
In the course of the second interview I handed to Shri Chettur photostat copies of two documents one of which contained authentic information on what happened to the jewellery which Netaji was carrying with him on his fatal plane dash from Saigon on August 17, 1945.

As for Netaji's sacred ashes, I told Shri Chettur that they were still enshrined in the temple where I had left them in 1945.

In view of the fact that Shri M. Rama Murti, ex-President, Indian Independence League, Japan, had been looking after the security of the ~~ashes~~ ashes as well as the gold for the last six years, I requested Shri Chettur to ask for cabled instructions from the ~~External~~ External Affairs Ministry to relieve Shri Murti of this onerous responsibility which should no longer be allowed to remain a burden on a private individual. Shri Chettur agreed to contact Delhi immediately.

When I called on him six days later, namely, June 5, he said that he had airmailed a letter to Delhi soon after I saw him on May 30, and had not yet had a reply. In my presence, he dictated a cable to Delhi

asking for an urgent reply to his letter. He promised to let me know the moment he heard from Delhi. I did not receive any message from him until the day I left Tokyo, namely, the 11th of June.

That, in ~~the~~ brief, is the position as far as I am aware at this moment. I do not know if Shri Chettur has since heard from Delhi. If nothing has yet been done in the matter, I would even now urge Delhi to instruct Shri Chettur to take over the responsibility for the safety of the ashes and the gold.

I need hardly add that I have sufficient proofs to convince any unbiassed person that the ashes are Netaji's. But, in view of the unfortunate attitude still adopted by Netaji's nephews, Shri Amiya Bose and Arvind Bose, the ashes cannot be brought to India yet; nor would it be prudent to make any announcement for the time being, either.

As for the gold, it might be worth our while to wait till the signing of the Japanese Peace Treaty, which event is expected to take place in September next. Then it might be easier to do something with the gold in Japan itself or to bring it to India. For obvious reasons, we can hardly do anything in this connection as long as the American occupation lasts.

All these facts are very well known to Shri Chettur who, I presume, has already communicated them to Delhi.

As I informed you on May 14, I left my post as Director of Publicity, Government of Bombay, that day and took over my new new duties as Regional Officer, Bombay, with the Central Board of Film Censors, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, the next day, that is, June 15. I have been rather busy this last fortnight getting into my stride in the new place; hence the delay in writing this

124
144
-3-
letter.

May I request you to be good enough to communicate the contents of this letter to the proper quarters in Delhi at your earliest convenience? They may contact me direct, if they wish to.

With best regards,

Yours Sincerely,

S.A. Ayer.

(S.A. Ayer)

Shri M. D. Bhat,
Chief Secretary to the
Government of Bombay,
Secretariat,
BOMBAY.

128
SECRET

148
D.O.No. 25/4/N GO

New Delhi,

4th July, 1951. (15-A)

My dear Bhat,

14A
I have just received your
d.o.No.CS/284, dated the 2nd July
1951, but the letter from Mr.S.A.
Ayer, stated to have been enclosed,
was not to be found alongwith it.
Perhaps it was not enclosed due to
an oversight on the part of the
despatcher. Please ascertain and
let me know.

Yours sincerely,

4/7
(B.N.Chakravarty)

M.D.Bhat Esq., I.C.S.,
Chief Secretary to Govt.of Bombay,
Political & Services Dept.,
Secretariat,
Bombay.

16A

126
SECRET.

146
D. 2272-NG 15(14-A)

D.O.No. CS 1284
Political and Services
Department, Secretariat,
Bombay, 2nd July 1951.

My dear Chakravarty,

With reference to the
talk which we had on the telephone
nearly a month ago, I forward the
letter which I have received from
S.A. Ayer in connection with his recent
visit to Japan.

Yours sincerely,

M.D. Bhat
(M.D. Bhat.)

Shri B.N. Chakravarty, ICS,
Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

15A

177
D.O.No. 25/4/NCO

2nd July 1951. (13-P)

3/7
My dear Chettur, 12A

9A
Thank you very much for your d.o.letter No. F.5(25)/51, dated the 22nd June 1951. You must have by now got our telegram and my d.o.letter No.25/4/NCO, dated the 25th June 1951 which I wrote after we received the photostats. I do not quite understand why Ayer did not hand over the treasure to you as previously promised. You might enquire from Ramaburti what happened. If Ayer contacts us on his return here we will also tackle him. 11A

As I told you in my last letter we were anxious to know all about the gold and the treasure and we had asked you to make necessary enquiries. We had in view only some confidential enquiries and we never thought that this might lead to any embarrassment. We will naturally have to reconsider the matter if the enquiry involves a degree of publicity which may prove embarrassing not only to the Mission but also to the Government. Before we can consider the matter further I shall be grateful if you will let us know why you think that the enquiry may be embarrassing.

Yours sincerely,

(R.N. Chakravarty)

K.K.Chettur, Esq.,
Head of Indian Liaison Mission,
Tokyo.

1288



D.O.No.F.5(25)/51.

1. 2255-N 157

TOP SECRET

(12-11)

148
INDIAN LIAISON MISSION

TOKYO

22nd June 1951.

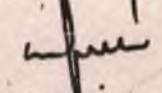
My dear Chakravarty,

My top secret D.O. letters of the 6th and 11th June 1951 have obviously crossed yours No.D.1859-NGO/51 of the 7th June.

2. I now understand that Ayer left by BOAC on the 11th for Calcutta, though I have not been able to verify the earlier report that he had gone to Hokkaido, as subsequent reports indicated that his ostensible visit to this Island was designed with a view to covering his tracks. One such report alleged that he had not in fact visit Hokkaido, but had gone to Sendai, about 300 miles north of Tokyo, to contact an old Japanese colleague who was also closely connected with Ayer and Ramamurti and the Netaji collections. The last I saw him was on the 5th when he called on me to say that he was definitely leaving on the 8th and to enquire whether any instructions had been received from you regarding his proposal to dispose of the Netaji collections in the manner indicated in paragraph 3 of my D.O. of the 29th May. He also handed to me at the time two photostats which must be in your hands by now. As he was very anxious to ascertain your reactions before his departure, I sent you, at his request, a most immediate cable on the 5th and assured him that a reply would be received by the 7th at the latest. That he did not bother to see me again, much less hand over the gold as previously promised, or even make an attempt to find out whether any reply had been received from you to the cable despatched at his instance, has added to ~~my~~ my suspicions regarding the motives behind his holiday visit to this country. His extraordinary statement that he had received a letter from you, entrusting him with two commissions on behalf of the Government of India, is also a point worth investigating.

3. If Government are seriously interested in unravelling the mystery surrounding the disappearance of the Netaji collections, I shall be only too glad to make further investigations in the matter, but it should be understood that such investigations may involve a degree of publicity which might well prove embarrassing not only to the Mission but also to the Government of India.

Yours sincerely,


(K.K. Chettur)

B.N.Chakravarty, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Commonwealth Relations,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

13A

149
TOP SECRET

129
D.O.No. 25/4/NGO

25th June 1951.

My dear Chettur, 8A

Will you kindly refer to your Top Secret d.o.lett No.F.5(25)/51, dated the 11th June 1951, which I received on 18th of June. As I wanted to mention the case to P.M. I had wait till he returned from his Nepal and Bihar tours.

P.M. has seen your letter and also the photostat copies of the letters you sent me with your d.o.letter No.F. 51 dated the 6th June 1951. P.M. did not quite understand why you should think that there is a lack of interest evinced by Government in this matter. I had to refer him to Harishwar Dayal's letter to Rama Rau. P.M. thought that that letter was issued without his being informed about it. He was, therefore particularly anxious that you should take interest in this matter and take possession of the gold and other treasure that may be possible for you to get now. I sent you a telegram the 23rd June accordingly. 9A

When I was in Japan I confess I interpreted Harishwar Dayal's letter in the same way as you have done. I did, however try to ascertain the facts just about the time I was leaving Japan but I could not make much progress. Ramamurti bluntly denied all knowledge of gold and jewellery. Now that P.M. desires that we must take interest in this matter I would request you to make a confidential enquiry and try to ascertain the facts. Every Indian in Japan says that Ramamurti became rich almost overnight and probably there is some truth in their allegations. But I do not know whether you will get any evidence to prove he had misappropriated the funds.

Please let us know when you get the treasure. Its disposal may be considered later.

Yours sincerely

9/6 06/25/6
(B.N.Chakravarti)

Shri K.K.Chettur,
Head of Indian Liaison Mission,
Tokyo

13A

(180)

180

NGO 55/16

OTP

CCB. NO. 3481.

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

From - Foreign, New Delhi.
To - India, Tokyo.

DTG JUNE 231906.

IMPORTANT

No. PRIMIN/21557.

Your letter dated 11th June. You are wrong in thinking that Government are NOT interested in this matter. Government are greatly interested in recovering all gold or other forms of treasure belonging to the India Independence League or INA fund or like organization. In view of photostatic copies of letters sent by you, should endeavour to get possession of all the treasure on behalf of Government and keep it in safe custody pending further instructions.

PRIME MINISTER (4): FS: SECY CR.

P N Sar
Superintendent CCB.

/PS(8)
23.6.

HA/BA



D.O.No.F.5(25)/51.

TOP SECRET

INDIAN LIAISON MISSION

TOKYO

11th June 1951.

My dear Chakravarty,

In continuation of my top secret D.O.No.F.5(2) of the 6th June, I enclose herewith a press cutting from the Nippon Times of yesterday, which speaks for itself. The fact that the author of the article is a leading member on the staff of the important United Press organisation will give you an indication of the degree of interest that has been aroused in local circles, both Indian and American, in Ayer's holiday in Japan. As I mentioned in my earlier letters, I have heard the most scandalous reports about the Ayer-Ramamurti link and I have no reason whatsoever to doubt their authenticity but in view of the lack of interest evinced by Government in this matter in the past, I have refrained from pursuing it. In any case, I believe you know as much about the case as I do and my comments on the subject might seem superfluous.

2. SCAP clearance for Ayer's two-week holiday was to have expired on the 8th June, but at his request we have had it extended by one week. He called at my office on the 5th to bid me good-bye and to tell me that the BOAC had confirmed his booking and that he was definitely leaving on the morning of the 8th. I understand, however, that he is still in Tokyo, though he has made no attempt to contact me or to apprise me of the reasons which have led to the extension of his stay in Tokyo -- which incidentally has prevented me from passing on ~~the gist of your~~ to him the gist of your cable of the 6th June.

Yours sincerely,

(K.K.Chettur)

P.S. I followed yellow ink
He had for K. Ramamurti.

B.N.Chakravarty, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Commonwealth Relations,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

Mystery of Bose's Treasure Revived With Ayer's Arrival

By WILLIAM CHAPMAN
UP Staff Correspondent

A meeting of two revolutionary lieutenants to the Indian independence martyr, Subhas Chandra Bose, has revived the mystery of the 1945 disappearance of \$700,000 in gold and jewels belonging to the ill-fated Indian National Army.

S. A. Ayer, Director of Publicity for the Government of Bombay, is vacationing at the home of M. R. Murti, president of the Far East Trading Company here.

Mr. Ayer was director of the Information Office of Chandra Bose's short-lived Independent Indian Government during World War II. Mr. Murti was the Japanese Government contact man from 1941 to 1945 for Chandra Bose's Indian Independence League.

Their meeting in Tokyo this week was the first for Mr. Ayer

and Mr. Murti since August of 1945. Mr. Ayer returned to India shortly after the Japanese surrender, while Mr. Murti remained in Japan.

Members of the Indian community in Japan said both were principal figures in the disappearance of the sizable war chest of the Japanese-supported Indian National Army.

Mr. Murti, however, claims no knowledge of the treasure. Mr. Ayer, when asked about the reports, declined to comment.

Chandra Bose, one of the three great leaders in the Indian independence move, was a man of action in contrast to Mahatma Gandhi or Pandit Nehru. During World War II he allied his movement with the fate of Japan, when Japan offered to help him push the British

(Continued on Page 2)

Mystery of Treasure Revived in Tokyo

(Continued From Page 1)

from India by force.

Leading an army of Indians recruited from Southeast Asia and from Japanese prisoner-of-war camps after the fall of Singapore, Chandra Bose at the pinnacle of his career pushed the British from the Province of Imphal in India and set up an independent government.

In the last days of the war he traveled through Thailand, Burma and Malaya addressing rallies of Indian trader supporters. When he called for financial aid, his audience often stripped off golden knickknacks and jewelry to contribute.

In August of 1945 Chandra Bose loaded his war fund aboard two planes and took off from Singapore for Tokyo. His plane crashed on Formosa on VJ-day (August 15). The Indian leader died after about six hours in a Taipei hospital.

The gold and jewels aboard the plane were confiscated. Mr. Ayer came to Japan in another plane, and, according to reports from various sections of the Far East, his plane carried the remaining gold and jewels. According to unconfirmed reports, he turned the treasure over to Mr. Murti, the Tokyo representative.

Members of the Indian community in Japan said that when Mr. Ayer left Japan for India, he did not take the bulky treasure with him. Mr. Murti claimed he had no knowledge of the estimated \$700,000. Mr. Ayer politely refused any and all comment on the subject.

In the years since the war, Mr. Murti has become a success-

INDIAN LIAISON MISSION

TOKYO

6th June 1951.

My dear Chakravarty,

In continuation of my D.O. No.F.5(25)/51 dated the 29th May 1951, I enclose herewith two photostats, which Ayer handed to me yesterday, of letters purported to have been written on the 15th November 1945 by himself and Habibu Rahman to Ramamurti in the latter's capacity as Chairman of the Territorial Committee of the late Indian Independence League in Japan. I am awaiting your instructions on the points raised in my previous letter on the subject, which I hope will reach me before Ayer leaves Tokyo on the 8th June.

Yours sincerely,

(K.K.Chettur)

B.N.Chakravarty, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Commonwealth Relations,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

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Two photostats.

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185-



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Y
do

Sri Ram Murti

Chairman I.I.L.

Territorial Committee
Japan.

Dear Friend,

I am leaving into you
the following quantity of Gold which
was released at Terikawa Prison after
the fatal air accident in which
Vedya Subhash Chandra expired at
2 P.M. on 18.8.45 in the hospital.

1. Comparatively pure Gold — Kg — 900
in two wooden boxes, and 7 — 200
a paper wrapper (weights includes
weights of gold and
wooden boxes).
2. one packet — Gold Kg 900
mixed with molten 3 — 100
metal iron etc. (weights includes weight
of gold, metal iron etc.
a paper wrapper).

Nil Kg
— 11 — 0

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2. Since this Gold is mixed with
other metals, accurate weights
cannot be assessed at present.
Hence also a better date for the
arrangements for Gold - the
purification of Gold may please
be made.

3. As requested, that this
Gold may ^{be} handed over
to a competent ^{Indian} authority who
representing Indians may be
dealing with the affairs
of the Indian Independence
Movement led by Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose in
East Asia.
Yours sincerely.

16.11.45.
Habibullah Khan.

1949
To Kyo 15/11/45.

To
Sri Rana Murti.

I am leaving with you
three hundred (300) grammes of gold and
ten twenty thousand. At the proper
time and place, kindly hand
these to the competent national
authority which will
undoubtedly one day come
into existence to handle affairs
arising as a sequel to the
movement for India's independence
led by Netaji Subhas Chandra
Bose in East Asia. The gold is
in fact as I brought it from
Sigon, the cash is balance of

159

- 2 -

Changing biastie into
Yen and meeting my expense
during my stay in Japan
since August 22, 1945.
The total in biastie and the
exchange rate are
shown in the bank slip.

S. A. G.
15/11/45

(189)

189

247 190

FORM
EBIP

NUMBER
288818



PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS SYSTEM

ISSUED BY
PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS, INC.
MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

EXCESS BAGGAGE TICKET

The System of the Flying Clippers

ENDORSEMENTS

REFUND COUPON

(Not to be filled out and not valid if ticket is issued against a Government Transportation Request, Warrant or other credit contract.)

Subject to the tariffs, rules and regulations of the Carrier and to all applicable laws and governmental regulations, refund will be made only to the passenger, unless another person shall have been designated below as Refund Payee, and in that event only to such Refund Payee, and in any case only upon surrender of the Passenger Coupon, all unused Flight Coupons and Excess Baggage Tickets:

(Refund Payee)

Printed in U.S.A.

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EXCESS BAGGAGE TICKET
PASSENGER
COUPON
FORM
EBIP

NUMBER

288818

DECLARED VALUE

\$100.00

VALUATION CHARGE

On Above Declared Value

— Cr.

PREVIOUSLY PD. VAL. CHGR.

— Cr.

BALANCE OF VAL. CHGR.

— Cr.

TOTAL WEIGHT

53 Kgs.

FREE ALLOWANCE

and previously

Pd. Exc. Wt.

40 Kgs.

716.450

EXCESS WEIGHT

13 Kgs.

C 4360

EXCESS WT. CHGE.

397

per kilo

— Cr.

No. PASS.

1

TOTAL CHARGES

4567

— Cr.

TAX

EXEMPT

— Cr.

TOTAL PAYMENT

4567

— Cr.

PASSENGER TICKET

FORM & NO.

6764-2
57640

FORM OF PAYMENT

DAMLE

Cash

FROM

TOKYO

TO

DELHI

 AIRLINE AND BAGGAGE
 PAN AMERICAN
 AIRWAYS, INC.
 NOV-9-50

TOKYO

AGENCY

CARRIER

PAA

PRT Form 31-800A-PNY-10-47

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162 X 198
D.O.No. D. 1859-N 4451

~~TOP SECRET~~ (6-A)
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi,
7th June 1951.

8/6
My dear Chettur,

Your Secret d.o. letter No. 5(25)/51 dated the 21st May and your Top Secret d.o. letter of the same number dated the 29th May both arrived day before yesterday. Soon after, I received your Top Secret telegram No. 48 GS dated the 5th of June. I replied to your telegram yesterday after consulting the Prime Minister.

Ayer's visit to Japan is by no means official or even officially sponsored. Ayer had approached the Deputy Minister through somebody for obtaining the SCAP clearance and a telegram was sent to you under instructions of the Deputy Minister. Ayer was asked to furnish particulars directly to you.

We wondered what the nature of his business was in Japan and we did not know what he was up to. After some consideration we decided not to ask him point-blank what he was going to do in Japan. We suspected that while in Japan he might be doing something about Netaji's ashes. I therefore rang up the Chief Secretary of the Government of Bombay and requested him to tell Ayer that if he visits Japan and if he can find any authentic information about Netaji's ashes he might pass on that information to you and to us. We thought that this would give both you and us some idea as to what he was doing there. A couple of days later I was rung up by the Chief Secretary of the Bombay Government who told me that SCAP clearance had not been received and that unless the clearance came within the next two or three days Ayer could not go as his leave would expire. We explained to him that unless and until the particulars were made available to you the SCAP clearance could not be obtained. As we did not receive any SCAP clearance I thought that Ayer had not been able to go to Japan. I did not therefore think it worthwhile troubling you. Your letter was the first intimation we received of Ayer's presence in Japan. Apparently the SCAP clearance had been communicated to him at Bombay. I am very sorry for this miscalculation as I now find that in trying to save you from some trouble I have unwittingly placed you in a difficult situation.

These are the facts. We certainly had no intention of seeking Ayer's assistance in getting the ashes. There is no truth in the other stories that he has given you. The statement that he had left behind in Bombay a letter which I am supposed to have written to him to avoid its contents being revealed during the journey or in any customs examination and that this precaution was taken at my instance reads too much like a six-penny novel. In fact I have never written to him. When I was in Japan I also heard about Ramamurti misappropriating the funds of the late Indian Independence League as also the personal property of the late Subhas Chandra Bose. Ayer's name was also mixed up with this. I could not, however, get any reliable evidence. Ramamurti in fact denied all knowledge of gold and jewellery. It is therefore interesting to know that Ayer is now able to produce some part of Netaji's collections. The Prime Minister thought that there is no point in refusing to accept the gold if that is made over to you by Ayer for safe custody. It is realised that it may not be possible to bring this gold out of Japan, but that is a matter which can be considered later. Similarly, if he wanted to show you the papers giving details of what was left there is no objection to your receiving these papers and examining them. A telegram was sent to you accordingly. I would request you to let us know in due course whether these papers throw any light on this question.

Shri K.K. Chettur,

Yours sincerely,

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O.T.P.

CCB No. 3117.
Copy No. 4.

Telegram

TOP SECRET

From - Foreign, New Delhi
To - India, Tokyo,

DTG JUNE 061530

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 30498. Top Secret.

Personal for CHETIVR.

Your telegram 46 GS dated 6th June. AYER'S visit to Japan is in NO sense official. If he gives you papers giving details of Subhas Bose's collections you should examine and keep them. If he makes over any gold to you you may keep it in safe custody without commitment as to its disposal and await further instructions from Government. Disposal may be considered later on.

PRIME MINISTER(3): SECY CR(6)

Superintendent CCB.

'KAPUR'(11)
6.6.

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D.O.No.F.5(25)/51.

TOP SECRET

INDIAN LIAISON MISSION

TOKYO

29th May 1951.

My dear Chakravarty,

Ayer, the Publicity Officer attached to the Government of Bombay, who is now in Tokyo, saw me this morning. He dwelt at some length on his previous trip to Japan, his relationship to Netaji, his knowledge of the tragic circumstances in which the latter met his death and his various interviews with P.M., particularly his recent one at the I.N.A. Relief meeting. He confided to me in this connection that he had been entrusted by the Government of India with two missions: (i) verification of the authenticity of Netaji's ashes which he and others had placed for safe deposit in a temple in Tokyo and (ii) recovery of the gold and jewellery which had been collected from the plane in which Netaji met his death. Ayer told me that he had received a letter on the subject from you and that he had left it behind at Bombay to avoid its contents being revealed during the journey or in any customs examination and that this precaution was taken at your instance. You will no doubt be in a position to verify his statements. All that I can say is that I cannot quite see why you should have left me in the dark with regard to this matter. I should have thought that in the circumstances it was most essential that I should be kept in touch with what was happening, particularly in view of Ayer's past history, his relationship with Ramamurti and the scandal connected with the disappearance of Netaji's collections. ✓ My letter on the subject of Ayer's visit - D.O.No.5(25)/51 of the 21st May - must have reached you by now. I may add that he was at great pains to assure me that he had been trying to return to Japan for the last four years to pay his respects to Netaji's ashes -- a story which, on the face of it, sounded extremely thin.

2. Ayer's unexpected return here as Ramamurti's guest has, I may add, given rise to considerable speculation however and that many of the local Indians are now seething with indignation at the manner of his return and his renewed association with these two brothers. Not that I personally see any reason why Ayer's choice of his friends should be anybody's ~~xxxxxxx~~ business except his own, but the fact that both Ramamurti and Ayer were alleged to have had something to do with the mysterious disappearance of the gold and jewellery collected by Netaji should, I think, have deterred us from encouraging him in his visit to this country or in giving his visit an official backing.

3. He also confided that some part of Netaji's collections had been saved, largely of fused and melted gold ornaments, which in his opinion was worth about a lakh of rupees or so. He completely phoo-phooed the story that some crores worth of jewels and gold had been saved: indeed he had a hearty laugh when I told him that local rumour had estimated the value of these property at some millions of rupees. He informed me that Col. Hahibur Rahman and himself had compiled elaborate details of what was left and that he would like me to go through these lists with him before the gold was shipped to India. His suggestion was that it should be broken up into small lots and sent by diplomatic bag to Delhi to be disposed of by the Government of India in such manner as they deemed fit. It does seem odd that he should now be so anxious to divulge the existence of this gold, stranger still, if rumour speaks correctly, that Ramamurti should have blossomed overnight into

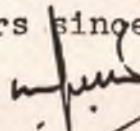
1948

- 2 -

1948

comparative affluence in 1946 when his compatriots were on the verge of starvation and misery. As you are aware, as well as I am, of the past history of this case, I am desisting from further comment, but I shall be grateful for your very clear instructions as to how I should further proceed in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



(K.K.Chettur)

B.N.Chakravarty, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Commonwealth Relations,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

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O.T.P.
TELEGRAM TOP SECRET
From : India, Tokyo.
To : Foreign, New Delhi.

GCB No. 4443.
COPY No. 5

DTG JUNE 051445.
DTR JUNE 061230.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 46 GS. TOP SECRET
CHETTUR.

Personal for CHAIVARTI from
4-A

My Top Secret D/O May 29th regarding AYER.
Grateful for immediate instructions as AYER leaving on
8th.

PRIME MINISTER(3): SECY CR(6) only.

K. Srinivasan
Superintendent OCB,

D(13)
5/6/51.

5A, 6A

197
197
X
D.O.No.5(25)/51.

SECRET (2-1)



INDIAN LIAISON MISSION

TOKYO

21st May 1951.

My dear Chakravarty, 1A

Will you please refer to the Ministry's secret telegram No.25112 dated the 8th May, asking us to obtain SCAP clearance for Mr. S.A.Ayer to visit Japan by the 15th May on a two-week holiday?

2. Apart from the fact that the particulars required under the existing SCAP regulations, of which the Ministry are no doubt fully aware, did not reach us until the 16th May, I was at a loss to understand why we should have been rushed in this fashion, unless of course Government were particularly interested in the visit, which however seemed unlikely as it had been clearly stated in the telegram that he was coming here for a holiday. We have also had a cable from the Passport Officer, Bombay, in this connection. This sudden hurry over what is purported to be a holiday trip and the fact that he is visiting this country as Ramamurti's guest make one wonder if there may not be more in it than meets the eye. As you are no doubt aware, there have been serious allegations against Ramamurti with regard to the misappropriation of the funds of the late Indian Independence League, as also the personal property of the late Subhas Chandra Bose, consisting of considerable quantities of diamonds, jewellery, gold and other valuable articles. Rightly or wrongly, Ayer's name has also been associated with these charges. The matter was referred to the Ministry in Rama Rau's secret D.O. of the 4th December 1947 to which Dayal replied in his D.O. No.D.9593-
FEA/47 dated the 30th December 1947. I thought I should bring this point to your notice for whatever it may be worth.

3. I hope you are not seeking Ayer's assistance with regard to the disposal of Netaji Subhas Bose's ashes now lying in a Tokyo temple, as it is most undesirable that he should, in view of the suspicions surrounding him, be associated in any manner with the taking over of these relics.

Yours sincerely,

(K.K. Chettur)

Chakravarty, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Commonwealth Relations,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Delhi.

6A

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148 198

J. T. F.

CGS No. 2501

CONFIDENTIAL

From... Foreign, New Delhi.
To... India, Tokyo.

DETO MAY 02 211

IMPORTANT

No. 25112. Subbier Appadurai Ayer Director of Publicity Government of Bombay proposes to fly to Tokyo 11th or 15th May on two weeks holiday. Kindly obtain SCAP clearance and intimate.

PPS TO PM; PS TO PM(4); DY MINISTER; SG; PS; SECY CR; DHD;
DS(FEAWT); DS(XP); US(FEA); US(PV); CJK BR(5); CAB SECY;
NGO BR.

PB(23)
3/5

P. N. Parveen
Superintendent CCB.

The file is re-submitted with
reference to Mr. Chettur's letter at
Sr. No.18-A, and Secy.(C.R's)
interim reply thereto at Sr. No.
19-A. Secy.(C.R) wanted to mention
the matter to P.M.

TA
17/7

Secy(CR)

(17/7)

(19/9)

1/9